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SECOND ANNUAL REPORT  
OF THE  
BUREAU  
OF THE  
UNIV. OF MISSOURI  
NOV 10 1880

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OF

OF

MISSOURI,

FOR

THE YEAR ENDING JANUARY 1, 1881.

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JEFFERSON CITY :  
TRIBUNE PRINTING COMPANY, STATE PRINTERS AND BINDERS.  
1881.



SECOND ANNUAL REPO

OF THE

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JEFFERSON CITY:

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**Mr. Carroll**, of St. Louis city, offered the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That five thousand copies of the report of the Commissioner of Bureau of Labor Statistics be printed in pamphlet form; two (2,000) thousand for the use of the House, and three (3,000) thousand for the use of the Bureau.

**Mr. Bonham** offered the following amendment to the resolution:

Amend by striking out five thousand and insert in lieu thereof ten thousand; two thousand for the use of the House, and eight thousand for the use of the Bureau.

**Mr. McGinnis** moved to refer the resolution and amendment to the Committee on Printing; which was carried.

**Mr. Wallace** submitted the following report of Committee on Printing:

**MR. SPEAKER**: Your committee to whom was referred the printing of the second annual report of the Bureau of Labor Statistics, beg leave to report that we have examined the same, and recommend the printing of three thousand copies for the use of the Bureau of Labor Statistics, and three thousand copies for the use of the House of Representatives; which was read and adopted, January 17, 1881.

J. H. HAWLEY, Chief Clerk.

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STATE OF MISSOURI, OFFICE OF BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS,  
EQUITABLE BUILDING, ST. LOUIS, January 11, 1881.

Hon. THOS. T. CRITTENDEN, *Governor of Missouri:*

SIR—I have the honor to herewith present to you the Second Annual Report of this Bureau for the year ending January 1, 1881.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. H. HILKENE, Commissioner.



## INTRODUCTION.

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The most valuable laws for the promotion of the welfare and prosperity of the people have been those which have sprung from their necessities as the results of their experience, and expressed in formal petitions for redress of grievances, or from improvements suggested by defects or omissions in previous legislation.

A deep and widely rooted conviction of the existence, somewhere in our social, industrial or political management of affairs, has culminated in an emphatic expression of dissatisfaction, accompanied by a demand for an impartial and searching investigation, with a view to discover, if possible, the cause of the general complaint. Why, with the rapid multiplication of the means and appliances for the production of wealth; the producers of wealth should find themselves periodically in a state of want, has been an impenetrable mystery to many, and as an aid to the solution of the problem a demand was made for the introduction of a new department into the government of the State, resulting in the establishment of a Bureau of Labor Statistics. If any doubts exist as to the necessity for such a department, they will be dispelled by a perusal of the second annual report of the Bureau.

### SCOPE AND INTENT OF THE LAW.

The second section of the act establishing the Bureau defines its object. It is: "To collect, assort, systematize and present, in annual reports, statistical details relating to all departments of labor in the State, especially in its relation to the commercial, industrial, social, educational and sanitary condition of the laboring classes, and to the permanent prosperity of the productive industries of the State."

The intention of the law is too clear to admit of doubt; its scope is comprehensive enough to cover the social and industrial interests of a continent.

Regarding, then, "the permanent prosperity of the productive industries of the State" as the rule which should govern the Bureau in the prosecution of its work, the materials to be collected for its accom-

plishment would be found in the "statistical details" and opinions of the laboring classes, employers and others, who had suggestions to offer upon the subject. It would then be plain, if evils had insidiously crept in and fastened themselves upon the industrial energies of the people, the assembled wisdom of the State would have some tangible ground for action, and, with the evils laid bare, be able to devise such measures as would secure their suppression.

A nation priding itself upon the principle of the right of the people to the unfettered use of their physical and mental powers for the improvement of their condition, cannot be too watchful, or guard with too jealous care the inroads of customs and practices which undermine their energies, rob them of the fruits of their labor, and slowly, but surely, pave the way for the destruction of their freedom and independence.

At no period in the history of the State should the warnings of true patriotism and American statesmanship command more serious attention than at the present time.

The following vivid picture of the degradation to which the laborer was reduced in one of the principal industries of England, in her efforts to maintain her manufacturing and commercial supremacy, and which will be found in the eloquent address delivered by the Hon. Henry T. Blow, before the School of Mines, at Rolla, February, 1873, should warn American statesmen of the tendency of American labor to a like condition:

"But it cost sacrifices that the world did not fully understand, to reach such a result, and it has been well said that this glory of England was at the same time her shame. Let us examine into this matter. The basis of this pre-eminently distinguished manufacturing country has been for years its coal and iron. Its area was small, its agriculture not sufficient to sustain its own population, and the cost of living greater than in Belgium, which little kingdom was in 1870 really its most formidable competitor, in wrought iron, especially, for the simple reason that *a Belgian workman could exist on a smaller sum than an English workman*. Yet, while this immense demand for all the products existed, prices were comparatively low, and in this very article of iron, the ingenuity of English masters was unequal to the task of meeting the Belgium competition, except by the old resort of imposing still further upon labor. It is very important for us that this fact should be well established, and while in London it became a point of vital interest to me to understand the whole truth concerning it, whether, indeed, with cheap coal and iron, it became a necessity for the English proprietors to degrade still further the labor of their

countrymen. The fact stood out in bold relief, the papers of the day, the intelligence of the day, the iron men of 1870, all alike sustained the view that coal was inexhaustible, and likely to remain by the aid of machinery, and these greater facilities for transportation at the low price which was the then sustaining source of the iron interest, and the most economical element in the steamship navigation of the empire. That iron ores were becoming scarce, especially the better ores; proprietors had been compelled to concede; they, therefore, as I have said, rested on the low price of labor and the low price of coal.

"A basis so unsound as the degradation of labor, a basis that illustrated so fully man's inhumanity to man, was doomed to perish. The coal was suddenly found to be deeper and scarcer, requiring more labor, better labor and more skill to disembowel it; the last hope of the English laborer fled when with less food he was asked to perform more labor at a lower price, and his family, without regard to sex, were doomed to the greatest misfortune that this unfortunate class had ever been subjected to; they rebelled, and God has blessed that rebellion, and in my opinion, the glory of England and its curse will perish alike by this conflict."

#### THE PAYMENT OF WAGES.

Throughout the State, and especially in the mining districts where the "truck system" prevailed, received the special attention of the Bureau. In many cases it was found that employes were paid in store goods, the store being owned by the employer or company, or in orders on stores in which it was supposed, with good reason, the employers were interested. In either case the practice is objectionable in that it deprives the workman of his liberty to dispose of his wages to the best advantage.

Another evil, not less injurious to the welfare of the laboring classes, and which is carried out to a great extent, especially by large companies, is the retention at each pay-day of wages still due, of from fifteen days to two months; or, in other words, a forced loan is exacted from the labor to his employer. This iniquitous practice compels the laborer to resort to the detestable credit system to supply his daily household wants. The manifest injustice of the practice will no doubt commend it to the serious attention of the General Assembly as a proper subject for prompt remedial legislation.

#### A MINING LAW

For the protection and safety of the life and health of the miner is also greatly needed in the State. Many of the mines, and especially

the coal mines, are poorly ventilated, and in other respects often unsafe to work in. In case of accident to the main shaft, but few are provided with the necessary escape shafts, such as are in use in other States. Again, persons totally incompetent are often placed in charge of engines and mines, thereby jeopardizing the lives of a class of citizens whom the State cannot, in justice, afford to loose. Another imposition to which the miner is subjected, is the "overweight" exaction. By this extortionate practice the miners are annually robbed of thousands of dollars of their wages. This is one of the most fruitful sources of the troubles existing between miners and operators.

#### SANITARY

Regulations should be enforced by law in factories, work-shops and mines. The attention of the Legislature is invited to this subject, and especially to that part of the report treating upon the poisonous effects of lead fumes from the smelting furnaces.

#### THE APPRENTICE SYSTEM

In this, as in many other States, is fast dying out. A small per centage only of the rising generation become thoroughly skilled in their avocation, and until some stringent system is adopted, binding alike on both parties, and enforced by law, the most important trades will be afflicted with half-taught, incompetent workmen, to the injury and discouragement of those who desire to maintain a high standard of excellence in their respective callings.

#### FIRE ESCAPES,

In case of fire, should be provided in every factory, work-shop and large establishment, where thousands of men, women and children are daily employed. The narrow escapes with life which have been recorded during the past year, should teach us the wisdom of the adage, "prevention is better than cure."

#### ACCIDENTS,

Caused by exposed machinery, have become frequent. Elevators and hatchways, in both public and private buildings, are often found without safeguards, and numerous accidents, some attended with loss of life, have been the result. A law requiring the erection of proper safeguards around machinery, hatchways and other places dangerous to life and limb, would have the desired effect.

**CHILD LABOR,**

In our factories, work-shops and mines, with its pernicious results, is fully set forth under that head in the body of the report, and special attention is invited thereto. In our humble opinion, the enactment of a compulsory education law would be the most effectual remedy for this evil.

**CONVICT LABOR**

Has, as far as our means permitted, been investigated, and a statement of the result is submitted under its proper heading. The Bureau having no power to compel contractors (or any one else) to reply to inquiries propounded, left it optional with them to answer questions which were of vital importance to reach any definite result as to what extent prison labor comes in contact with free labor.

While one of the contractors cheerfully answered all questions asked, the balance gave such evasive replies that no reliable data could be obtained upon which to base any accurate calculation. Admitting the figures presented in regard to the cost for labor for prison-made products to be approximately correct, there seems to be no good reason why some practical plan should not be devised by which the State could receive the profits now reaped by the contractors.

If penal institutions have been deemed necessary for the punishment of crimes against society, and the employment of the criminal in some useful labor as a reformatory element in his punishment and future restoration to society, can be utilized and made to contribute to his support, should not the State, and not the private speculator, reap the benefit of that labor? especially when it is considered that the cost to the State of maintaining its penitentiary from 1833 to 1880—47 years—exceeded two millions of dollars.

**FARMING**

In Missouri, like many other Western States, has its drawbacks, not so much in natural disadvantages as in other respects. The farmer's grievances will be found under the head of "opinions and suggestions," in part XIV of this report.

**THE PRINTING OF THE FIRST ANNUAL REPORT**

Of this department was defrayed, with the consent of his Excellency, Governor Phelps, from the appropriation made for its support, the

Legislature having failed to provide for its printing. To avoid this defect in the future, the Commissioners of Public Printing should be authorized to have the report printed immediately upon its receipt by the Governor.

#### THE EXPENSES

Of the Bureau up to December 31, 1880, are as follows:

Appropriation.....		\$5,000 00
For office fixtures.....	, \$84 95	
For office rent.....	820 00	
For clerk hire and assistance.....	957 50	
For postage.....	259 50	
For printing.....	161 80	
For stationery.....	43 25	
For traveling expenses.....	129 10	
For incidental expenses.....	10 80	
For salary of commissioner.....	1,856 85	
For printing 2,500 copies first annual report.....	230 45	
		3,553 70
Balance.....		\$1,446 80

#### THE OFFICE OF THE BUREAU

Was located by Governor Phelps, at the request of the Commissioner, in St. Louis. Experience has shown that it should be removed to the Capital of the State, thereby saving a yearly rental of \$240.00, and secure other advantages greatly necessary in carrying on the work.

#### THE COMMISSIONER

Desires to acknowledge the valuable services rendered by Mr. John Samuel, chief clerk of the Bureau; also by Messrs. Thomas H. Evans, R. H. Simpson, P. T. Miller, Dr. S. E. Price, and Henry Eshbaugh, for assistance rendered in the make-up of this report, and by the various State officers, for favors shown.

#### UNITED STATES CENSUS, 1880.

By reference to page 11, first annual report of the Bureau, it will be seen that arrangements had then been made with the Census Department at Washington, for "advance sheets of the census of Mis-

souri for 1880, for publication in the second annual report." The delay of the work at Washington, and the inability of the census office to furnish the latest information, is no doubt due to the imperfect and unsatisfactory enumeration of the population of the city of St. Louis, and which had to be repeated to obtain more accurate and reliable results. In reply to a request for such information as could be furnished in relation to the census of Missouri, the following letter from Superintendent Walker, Census Office, Washington, was received:

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,  
CENSUS OFFICE,  
WASHINGTON, D. C., November 27, 1880.}

W. H. HILKENE, Esq.,  
*Commissioner of Bureau of Labor Statistics, St. Louis, Mo. :*

Sir—In reply to your letter of November 27, I would say that up to this time only a portion of the statements relative to the population of Missouri has been compiled.

A statement of the population of 69 of the interior counties of the State, is now in the hands of the printer, and will be issued in bulletin form in a few days, a copy of which will be sent you when ready.

I cannot say when the compilation of the population of all the remaining counties will be completed.

Statements will be sent you as soon as issued. It will probably be a much longer time before any part of the industrial and commercial statistics of the State will be ready.

Very respectfully,

F. A. WALKER, *Superintendent.*

As no later communications have been received from the National Department at this writing (Dec. 31, 1880), it is but necessary to state that any returns received by this office, if received before this report goes to press, will be given in an appendix.



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PART I.

WAGES & MODES OF PAYMENT.

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## Wages and Modes of Payment.

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Without entering into the discussion of the wages question or the origin and development of the wage system, it may be simply observed that the scope of this article is limited to an examination of the system or practice of the payment of wages in the various departments of labor throughout the State, the effects of that system or practice on the social and domestic habits of the working classes, and upon the progress and "prosperity of the productive industries of the State."

*Salus Est Suprema Lex esto.* "The Welfare of the People is the Supreme Law," is the motto engraved on the State seal, and to the principle embodied and expressed in that motto were the people committed when they accepted the constitution from the hands of those they had delegated to frame it.

That the rights and welfare of a part of the people, and that no inconsiderable part, have been overlooked and neglected, will be borne out by an examination of the statements contained in this chapter.

To obtain an intelligent and satisfactory understanding of the question, the opinions of the workingmen, employers and farmers, as expressed elsewhere in this chapter, must be studied. These opinions, it may be observed, come from all parts of the State and from the most intelligent and reflecting portion of its citizens. It may be further observed that while the presumption is that the wages of labor is paid in the currency of the nation, it will be found, on examination, that a large proportion is paid in goods supplied by stores owned by the proprietors or corporations, or in "store orders" where the store is not so owned.

The high prices charged for the goods in these stores, ranging from 10 to 40 per cent. higher than goods of the same quality sell at neighboring stores, the low rates of wages, and the rules in force in many establishments of keeping back wages from *one* to *four* months, have impoverished and diminished the resources of the laborer to such a de-

gree that after years of toil, if he desired to leave, he would have to leave as a tramp, or if unable longer to maintain himself, would have to accept life as a charity from others.

Nor is the laborer the only sufferer by this iniquitous system. It affects to an extent known only to those who are so unfortunate as to be within its influence, the farming and commercial interests of the district wherever the system holds sway. The practice of keeping a store by employers in connection with their legitimate business for the purpose of supplying their workmen with goods, as a means of evading the payment of wages in money, was extensively carried out in England up to the time of King William the IV, in whose reign it was abolished by law. This practice, familiarly known as the "truck system," with its impositions and extortions upon the working classes of that country, is ably and impartially treated under that head in McCulloch's Commercial Dictionary. Having noticed the "opposite opinions formed from the contradictory evidence given as to the practical operations and real effect of this system on the workmen, and which was not to be wondered at, seeing that everything depended on the mode in which it was administered, and that it may be either highly advantageous or highly injurious to the laborer," the writer proceeds:

"If a manufacturer of character establish a shop supplied with the principal articles required for the use of his workmen in his employment, and give them free liberty to resort to it or not, as they please, it can at all events do them no harm, and will, most likely, render them material good. The manufacturer, having command of capital, may, in general, lay in his goods to greater advantage than they can be laid in by the greater number of retail tradesmen in moderate sized towns; and not being dependent on the profits of his shop for support, he is, even though he had no advantage in their purchase, able to sell his goods at a cheaper rate than they can be afforded by a majority of shopkeepers. Sometimes, also, a factory is established in a district where shops either do not exist at all, or are very deficient, and in such cases the master consults the interest and convenience of those dependent on him when he provides a supply of the principal articles required for their subsistence. It is easy, therefore, to see that the keeping of shops by masters for the use of their workmen may be very beneficial to the latter. But to insure its being so, it is indispensable that the masters should be above taking an advantage when it is within their reach, and that their conduct towards their workmen should not be in any degree influenced by the circumstance of the latter dealing or not dealing with their shop. Such disinterestedness is, however, a great deal more than could be rationally expected from the

generality of men ; and, hence, though many instances may be specified in which the truck system was advantageous to the workmen, those of a contrary description were, unfortunately, far more numerous. It is obvious, indeed, that a practice of this sort affords very great facilities for fraudulent dealings. Under the old law a manufacturer who had a shop had means, supposing he were inclined to use them, not possessed by any ordinary shopkeeper as respects his customers, of forcing upon his workmen inferior goods at an exorbitant price. They are at first supplied on liberal terms, and are readily accommodated with goods in anticipation of wages, until they get considerably into debt. The pernicious influence of this deceitful system then begins to fully unfold itself. The workmen cease to be free agents, they are compelled to take such goods and at such prices as the master pleases, for were they to attempt to emancipate themselves from this state of thraldom by leaving their employment, they would be exposed to the risk of prosecution and imprisonment for the debts they had incurred. It is not easy to imagine the extent to which these facilities for defrauding the laboring class were taken advantage of in various districts of the country. In many instances, indeed, the profits made by the shops exceeded those made by the business to which they were contingent, and thousands of workmen whose wages were nominally 30 s. a week, did not really receive, owing to the bad quality and high price of the goods supplied to them, more than 20 s., and often not so much."

Here is an exact portraiture of the "truck system" as it existed fifty years ago in England, and *as it exists in the State of Missouri to-day*, to an extent that would be incredible in the absence of proof. The feeling awakened by the exposure of the iniquitous system, the steps taken to suppress it and the opposition encountered, are next dwelt upon by the writer already quoted. Speaking of the abolition of the system, the writer says:

" A system of dealing with the laboring classes so susceptible of abuse, and which, in point of fact, was extensively abused, was loudly and justly complained of. A bill was, in consequence, introduced for its suppression by Mr. Littleton, which, after a great deal of opposition and discussion, was passed into a law (1 and 2 Will. 4, c. 32). Those who opposed this act did so on two grounds : First, that it was improper to interfere at all in a matter of this sort; second, that the interference would not be effective. The first of these objections does not appear entitled to any weight. In suppressing the truck system, the Legislature did nothing that could in anywise regulate or fetter the fair employment of capital ; it interfered to put down abuse, to carry, in fact,

the contract of wages into full effect by preventing the workman from being defrauded of a portion of the wages he had stipulated for. \* \* \* Instances have repeatedly occurred where the interference of the Legislature to prevent or suppress abuse, on occasions of this sort now alluded to, has been imperiously required and been highly advantageous. Those who claim its interposition are, indeed, bound to show clearly that it is called for to obviate some gross abuse, or that it will materially redound to the public advantages, and this, we think, was done in the completest manner by the opponents of the truck system. Regard for the interest of the more respectable part of the masters, as well as for those of the workman, required its abolition; for while it continued, those who despised taking an advantage of their dependents were less favorably situated than those who did. It is ludicrous, therefore, in a case of this sort, to set up a "cuckoo cry" about the freedom of industry. The good incident to the truck system was, in practice, found to be vastly overbalanced by the abuses that grew out of it, and as these could not, under the existing law of debtor and creditor, be separately destroyed, the Legislature did right in attempting to suppress it altogether."

The accuracy of this statement as to the results of the system in a country foremost among nations in manufacturing and commercial enterprise, will be found fully corroborated by the statements received, not only from the mining and manufacturing districts, but from those engaged in mechanical and other occupations in many of the towns and villages throughout the State. A system so injurious to the best interests of the people, may well be considered a fit subject for grave deliberation by the Legislative power of the State. Another serious evil affecting the social and domestic life of a considerable portion of the laboring class in the State, is the retention of wages for weeks and months after payment is due. The extent to which this evil is carried, and its effects, will be better understood by consulting the tabulated statements of workingmen and others.

The following tables are designed to show how and when wages are paid in the various industries reported to the Bureau. It is based on the returns received, and indicates the number of returns from each industry, and also the time and manner of paying wages, whether in cash or otherwise :

TABLE 1.—PAYMENT OF WAGES—EMPLOYEES' RETURNS.

OCCUPATION.	Total number of returns.	Cash.			Otherwise. Scrip, checks, store orders, etc.
		Weekly.	Semi-monthly.	Monthly.	
Blacksmiths.....	15	7	2	4	2
Bricklayers.....	19	2	12	.....	5
Carpenters.....	41	14	16	.....	11
Carriages and wagons.....	14	8	2	.....	4
Cigar makers.....	71	57	.....	.....	14
Clothiers (tailors).....	18	13	.....	.....	.....
Coal miners.....	84	3	3	18	12
Coopers.....	16	13	2	.....	1
Engineers.....	9	4	.....	3	2
Flour millers.....	8	2	.....	4	2
Furniture.....	9	7	.....	.....	2
Harness makers.....	32	30	1	.....	1
Iron miners.....	20	.....	.....	.....	20
Lead miners.....	63	4	.....	1	58
Machinists.....	17	5	2	10	.....
Painters.....	12	9	.....	.....	8
Planing mills.....	5	1	4	.....	.....
Plasterers.....	17	3	12	2	.....
Pri'iters.....	19	19	.....	.....	.....
Railroads.....	53	.....	.....	58	.....
Stone cutters.....	11	.....	11	.....	.....
Stove founders.....	8	7	1	.....	.....
Tobacconists.....	13	13	.....	.....	100
Miscellaneous.....	58	39	6	7	6
Total number of returns tabulated.....	577				
Total number receiving wages weekly.....	260				
Total number receiving wages semi-monthly.....	74				
Total number receiving wages monthly.....	100				
Total number receiving wages in scrip, checks, orders, etc.....	143				

TABLE 2.—PAYMENT OF WAGES—EMPLOYERS' RETURNS.

BUSINESSES.	Total number of returns.	Cash.			Scrip, checks, store orders, etc.
		Weekly.	Semi-monthly.	Monthly.	
Bakers and confectioners.....	6	6	.....	.....	.....
Blacksmiths.....	21	14	.....	.....	7
Breweries.....	6	.....	.....	6	.....
Brushes and brooms.....	8	6	.....	.....	2
Builders.....	11	8	1	.....	2
Carpenters.....	21	10	8	3	5
Carriages and wagons.....	21	19	.....	2	.....
Cigar manufacturers.....	13	12	.....	.....	1
Clothiers (tailors).....	8	8	.....	.....	.....
Coal miners.....	16	4	.....	4	8
Coopers.....	7	6	.....	.....	1
Cotton and woolen mills.....	17	9	4	2	2
Dry goods.....	6	6	.....	.....	.....
Flour mills.....	20	17	.....	8	.....
Furniture.....	9	8	.....	1	.....
Harness and saddlery.....	7	6	.....	1	.....
Iron works.....	24	10	4	4	6
Lead mines.....	12	7	.....	.....	5
Painters.....	10	10	.....	.....	.....
Planing mills.....	13	7	1	1	4
Potteries and stoneware.....	8	4	.....	.....	4
Printers.....	21	18	.....	.....	3
Railroads.....	9	.....	1	8	.....
Stone cutters.....	5	.....	2	3	.....
Tobacco works.....	9	5	.....	.....	4
Miscellaneous.....	40	22	8	10	5
Total number of returns tabulated.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	348
Number paying weekly in cash.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	222
Number paying semi-monthly in cash.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	19
Number paying monthly in cash.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	48
Number paying in scrip, check, store order, etc.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	59

In connection with the foregoing tables we present a summary of the different modes adopted by employers in the payment of wages, with the opinions of workingmen and employers thereon.

#### BLACKSMITHS.

In this trade seven employers report that they do not pay wages full in cash; five pay part cash and part in orders on stores; two in Iron, and one in Caldwell county, pay entirely in trade or store orders.

Two employes, one in Osage, Crawford county, the other in Hancock, Pulaski county, complain of receiving their wages in trade and store orders.

#### BAKERS AND CONFECTIONERS.

While our reports are all from large establishments who pay weekly, yet, the most general custom is to pay monthly.

#### BRUSHES AND BROOMS.

Two employers, one in Dresden, Pettis county, the other in Clinton, Henry county, report paying in part cash and part orders.

#### BREWERIES.

While the common rule in business is to pay monthly, still it is the case that wages are paid on demand, if needed, prior to the expiration of the month.

#### BRICKLAYERS.

Five employes in this trade state that they are irregularly paid, and mainly in store orders or trade. They are residents of small towns where the system of barter and trading is prevalent.

#### BUILDERS.

Of the eleven employers who reported, two pay their workmen in part cash and part trade.

#### CARRIAGES AND WAGONS.

The reports received from the carriage trade are mainly from the large cities, and show no indication of the truck system. But in the wagon trade the returns from employes give the following: One in Renick, Randolph county, is paid in store orders; one in Kirksville, Adair county, is paid in "any thing," produce generally; one in Pineville, McDonald county, part cash and part trade; one in West Plains, Howell county, says: "I have to take store orders, and the storekeepers fix their own prices; I am charged \$1.25 for what can be got elsewhere for \$1.00."

**CARPENTERS.**

Five employers in the carpenter trade pay their men in part cash and part orders. These five do business in villages where store trading is the most general system of payment. The following extracts from the employers' blanks will prove interesting:

*Return No. 191. Edina, Knox Co.* "When I contract with a merchant to build a house I agree to take a portion in goods, I bind him to let my hands have goods as cheap as if they had the cash; if not, they report to me. An order given in this way I consider as good as cash."

*Return No. 409. California, Moniteau Co.* "The laboring men here are paid mostly in store orders, which I think is wrong. Let every man go where he pleases with his dollar in cash."

*Return No. 1601. St. Louis.* "There ought to be a law to compel employers to pay their hands in cash once a week. My experience is it would be a great benefit and assistance by keeping men from running into debt to grocers and traders."

Of the forty-one returns received from journeymen carpenters, eleven report they are irregularly paid, and in part cash and part in store orders or in trade.

**CIGAR MAKERS.**

Before the St. Louis strike of August, 1879, many St. Louis firms were in the habit of paying their cigarmakers in cigars instead of cash. These cigars the men were expected to peddle around and sell wherever they could, and thus obtain their money. This evil ceased in St. Louis, to a great extent, with the success of the strike, but it still flourishes in St. Joseph, Kansas City, Clinton, Hannibal, Sedalia and other places. In these latter cities it is also a common practice for employers to compel their workmen to board in saloons where they sell cigars. The following extracts from employers explain the situation :

*Return No. 499. St. Joseph,* "There are some cigar manufacturers here that insist on their workmen boarding where they can sell cigars and pay the board for them in trade."

*Return No. 420. St. Louis.* "Before the strike we paid our men in cigars, which they sold often at twice the price we charged them."

The above (No. 420) we know to be disproved by facts. To sell the cigars the men have to carry them around to beer shops and drinking places, and dispose of them on the best terms possible; the result, as a rule, is that a large portion of the price agreed upon is at once spent in beer, etc. And thus the greater part of the wages is wasted in dissipation, which is not only an injury to the health and pockets of the workmen, but to private and public morality.

The following extracts are from employes' returns:

*Return No. 367. Kansas City.* "Sometimes I have been obliged to work in this city for employers who give a married man an order on a grocery store equal to the board of a single man, for they can employ single men and pay their board in cigars."

*Return No. 226. Kansas City.* "Some of the cigar manufacturers in this and other cities in the State, oblige single men employed by them to board at certain places, paying the board bill for them in cigars, and deducting the amount from their earnings. Married men and others having permanent homes are often compelled to trade out a similar amount in order to obtain employment. The prices charged are always in excess of what the same amount of goods can be bought for with cash. This is an evil which, in the near future, will occasion many strikes if not abated."

Other returns from Kansas City confirm the above reports. There are also in Kansas City two stores where the employes must trade. Returns from St. Joseph are to the same effect. In St. Louis there are still several firms paying one-half the wages in cigars, while another firm compels its employes to take meal tickets on restaurants and pay for them with cigars.

In connection with the above it may be observed that the practice of selling cigars without a "bond" is strictly prohibited by the United States revenue law. Section 3,381 Revised Statutes makes it the duty of every peddler of cigars "to give bond (form III) to the collector of his district, in the penal sum of two thousand dollars." Any one who is found peddling cigars without having given the bond, or without having previously obtained the collector's certificate, is subject to a fine of not less than fifty dollars nor more than five hundred dollars, and to imprisonment for not less than thirty days nor more than twelve months.

It will be seen at once that the poor cigar maker who is out of employment and forced to take work on this condition, that he will accept half pay in cigars, is a criminal in the eyes of the law just so soon as he goes from place to place (for he is then virtually a peddler), and offers them for sale. No matter how bad his family may need the few hard earned dollars, if caught in the act of selling cigars without a license, which necessity compelled, the law brands him as a criminal, and the prison door stares him in the face. Where is the justice?

#### CLOTHIERS (TAILORS).

Both employers' and employees' returns in this trade show that the rule is to pay weekly in cash.

#### COOPERS.

An employer at Unionville, Putnam Co., who employs a large number of hands, pays one-half the wages in orders on a store of his

own, the other half in cash. At St. Peters, St. Charles Co., an employe reports being paid in flour, bran and meal at the mill where he works, and sometimes getting store orders. All others working in the same place are paid in a similar manner.

#### COTTON AND WOOLEN MILLS.

One establishment in Gentryville, Gentry Co., pays part cash and part goods; the firm having a book account with its employes, expects them to trade at its store. In Trenton, Grundy Co., another mill pays its employes in the foregoing manner.

#### COAL MINERS.

This occupation is more sadly afflicted with the pernicious system of truck pay than any other calling in the State. Our returns show the system to be fully developed in several counties and affecting hundreds of families. No words can better describe the extent of the evil than to quote from the statements made to the Bureau. We present first the employers' testimony:

*Huntsville, Randolph Co.*—Here the two companies in operation pay part cash and part store orders, and have each a store where the men must trade. No scrip or checks are used, a book account being kept. Settlements of wages are made weekly.

*Fulton, Callaway Co.*—Three firms operating at this place agree that: "If men want orders during the month, they can get them. If they can wait a month then they can get cash in full." One firm rents houses on fair terms to the miners and deducts the rent monthly from the wages.

*Bevier, Macon Co.*—A certain company here employing a large number of men, has a store where they have to trade on book account. No scrip or checks are used. The prices are higher than in adjoining towns. Settlements are made monthly in cash, after deducting the store bills due the company.

*Brown's Station, Boone Co.*—Miners are paid part cash and part orders on stores. Settlements monthly.

*Mendota, Putnam Co.*—The operator here has a store and issues merchandise checks similar to those shown in this report. Very little cash is ever paid.

*Elston, Cole Co.*—Some of the operators at this place pay in store orders and occasionally a portion in cash. None have stores of their own, but make their orders payable at other stores in the town.

*Macon, Macon Co.*—One mining company, a short distance from Macon, employs 150 men and pays them partly in cash and partly in store orders on a neighboring store. The company has no store of its own, and makes a monthly settlement with the miners.

*Higginsville, Lafayette Co.*—Miners have to deal at operator's store, although partly paid in cash.

#### COAL MINERS' STATEMENTS.

The following extracts from miners' blanks, give abundant proof of the nature and location of this rapidly spreading evil, which deprives men of the full possession and control of their wages, and leaves them powerless to use their earnings to the best advantage:

*Elliott, Randolph Co.*—The mining company at Elliott has a store, and charges higher prices than rule in other stores. The men must trade in the store under penalty of discharge. Settlements in cash are made monthly, and twenty days pay is retained from the men until such time as they quit the company's employment. This company has also a large number of men at work at Lewis' Station, Henry county, where the same system of payment prevails. This company also rents houses to miners at Elliott, at \$6.00 per month. The houses are in fair condition.

*Bevier, Macon Co.*—One firm, with over ninety men employed in this neighborhood, pays in store orders, and makes a cash settlement every month after the store bills are deducted; the orders are in writing. This firm had a store of its own in the summer of 1879, but does not now carry it on in the name of the firm. In November, 1879, the men had forty-three days pay due them, so that practically the men had to take store orders and deal wherever they could, and not where it would be to their advantage. This debt extended back from the previous March, and some were owed from \$40.00 to \$70.00. This amount of money, to a great extent, is still due them.

Another firm, with 250 men, within the past year went into operation at Bevier, and has a store connected with their mine. The men trade on book account. No scrip or checks. When the store was first opened, prices were very fair, but by degrees everything advanced to exorbitant figures. The men are compelled to trade there, and the firm give the men distinctly to understand that all miners in its employ must trade at their store, or else be discharged. None of the men are ever allowed to run in any one day over and above the amount of earnings due them.

The Summit Mines, at Bevier, have a store and a system of payment similar to that above. The men are likewise compelled to buy

in the company's store, and some twenty small houses, owned by the company, are rented to the miners. The rent is deducted in the office from the men's pay. A boarding house is also the property of the company, and in case any resident of it is discharged from employment, he will not be allowed to remain, even if he offers to pay his board. This company never allows the bills of the men to exceed their earnings.

*Trenton, Grundy Co.*—The coal company of this place has no store of its own, yet it pays the miners in store orders, and retains twenty-five days pay from them until such time as they leave its employment. (One return, No. 1720, contradicts the statement about the store orders).

*Renick, Randolph Co.*—The Shafton Mines, in this vicinity, employ a large number of men, and pay them in store orders on various stores. Cash settlements are made every month, and twenty days pay is retained by the firm. "Houses, that are mere shells," are rented to the men. These houses contain one room and a kitchen; they are wheather-boarded up and down, then stripped on the outside. Some of them have plastered ceilings, but none have plastered walls; they rent at \$3.50 per month. Some houses, with an extra room upstairs, rent for \$6.00 per month.

*Lexington, Lafayette Co.*—While several of the mines in this vicinity make payments every two weeks, there are others who do so only once a month. In the latter cases, the men, of necessity, have to take orders on stores owned by other than the employers. The colored miners, of which there is a large number at Lexington, are generally paid in store orders, and it is known that those operators who pay in this manner, realize 10 per cent. on the sales so made, and this is charged to the miners on the prices of the goods.

Our correspondence from Lexington informs us, that the —— coal and mining company issues store orders to their employes and charge 10 per cent. for their trouble, deducting it from the men's wages on the day of settlement. Another practice is to give the orders at par to the men, and then every two weeks redeem them from the storekeepers at ninety cents on the dollar, and then destroy them. The men, as a matter of course, loose ten per cent. either way.

*Fulton, Callaway Co.*—In this region the custom is to pay monthly in cash, and in some instances two weeks wages are retained. As very few miners are in such a condition as to be able to wait until the end of the month, they are naturally compelled to ask for store orders, which, as the operators say, "are never paid out, only at the miner's

request." The greater part of the miners rent houses from the companies at figures far in excess of the rates usual in this vicinity.

An operator in Fulton informs the Bureau that while none of the mine operators of that city keep a store of their own, yet the most of them arrange it so that they get a percentage from the merchant of from three to six cents on the dollar on all orders paid their men, good at these stores. The orders are in writing, and generally read as follows:

FULTON, ——, 18—.

Mr. ——

Give —— two dollars in merchandise on my account.

Signed ——.

*Huntsville, Randolph Co.*—A coal company at this place has a store, at which the men are compelled to deal, prices being from 5 to 15 per cent. higher than elsewhere. Settlements in cash are made monthly, after deducting the store orders drawn by the men. The company retains 15 days' pay, and sometimes more, at each settlement; the form of order is in writing, and is as follows:

HUNTSVILLE, ——, 18—.

Mr. ——

Let the bearer have merchandise to the amount of —— dollars.

Signed ——,

Coal and Mining Company.

A correspondent at Huntsville states there is a coal mine between Macon City and Moberly, in a place known as "Possum Hollow," where a store owned by the company is in operation.

*Richmond, Ray Co.*—Not very long since the system of company stores flourished in Richmond, and affected every miner; but now it is generally the custom to pay the miner promptly in cash every month. Three of the firms are reported as paying in cash, but retain ten days' wages. The miners of Richmond are so grateful for the discontinuance of the store pay that one of them in his return said: "I am paid in cash. Thank God." Still there is one firm at this place that pays their miners in store orders. And in all the mines at Richmond, it is a fact that if a miner desires to quit employment in advance of pay-day, ten per cent. discount is exacted for payment of wages in cash. There are some twenty houses owned by operators and rented to miners, and during the Richmond strike of August, 1879, the miners and their families were ejected from these tenements.

*Camden, Ray Co.*—This place, in June, 1879, was afflicted with the evil of a corporation store. Prices were higher than in any

other store. But now the miners are paid in cash monthly. The firm retains twenty-five days' wages, and pay at times in store orders. Houses owned by the operators are rented to the miners.

One miner makes a statement as follows:

"The storekeeper here keeps the account of coal each man digs, and then knows what wages are due each man. The miners, unable to wait a month for their pay, especially as they get hardly any pay at all for the first month (twenty-five days' pay remain with the firm), go and ask for store orders. Then the goods bought are charged to the miners' account, and at the end of each month, the store bill is deducted from the wages, and the balance, if there is any, paid in cash. Very few, of course, get any money at all."

Another miner writes, as follows:

"If a miner wants a few dollars due him from the operators before pay-day, he has simply to say so, and the magnanimous operators will pay all—every cent—the miner has earned, and deduct five per cent. a month, or sixty cents per year on the dollar."

The following graphic description of the situation as it has been in Camden, will convey an idea of the workings of the truck system:

"When \_\_\_\_\_, (coal operators), had a store here, they generally sent a notice by mail, and sometimes by hand, to their miners, politely requesting them to do their trading at the company's store, or else hunt work in other regions. Goods were very high, \$3.50 per hundred for flour, which sold in other Camden stores for \$2.60; four pounds less of sugar and one to two pounds less of coffee for the dollar than we could get elsewhere. Bacon was 4 to 6 cents dearer per pound. By this means men of families were never able to draw a cent of money for the month—had traded it all out. The mines were kept full of miners when one-half the number could have done the work, for the more men were crowded into the mines the more goods could be sold. This kept down our wages and reduced their purchasing power. But this is done away with now in Camden, but at any time it may be revived. It is only a faint picture of the situation in many districts of the State. What we want is a law compelling all persons or corporations to pay their employes in the legal tender of the country, and put a stop to this infamous system."

#### FLOUR MILLS.

Two employes in this business report being paid in part cash and part produce.

**FURNITURE.**

A firm in St. Louis, employing over 200 workmen, says: "We have no store for our men to trade in—that is a fraud on the employe."

Two workmen, one at Holden, Johnson county, the other at Paris, Monroe county, say they are paid their wages in store orders.

**HARNESS AND SADDLERY.**

An employe in a harness shop at Milan, Sullivan county, states he is paid his wages in part cash and part produce, and has to trade at a grocery store owned by his employer.

**IRON WORKS.**

In the blast furnaces of the State, the system of company stores and store-pay prevails to a marked extent. One company running an extensive establishment has three places in operation in Crawford county—Midland, Sestia and Cherryville—and pays in orders, of which the following is a sample:

50c	25c	25c	25c	25c
<b>STOREKEEPER MIDLAND BLAST FURNACE CO.</b> <i>Pay</i> _____ <b>TWO DOLLARS IN MERCHANDISE.</b> <small>EXPLANATION.—When this order is presented, the store-keeper will punch out figures that indicate the value of the purchase.</small> <b>I. B. FOLSOM, Supt.</b>				
10c	5c	5c	5c	5c

This company has a store of its own in all three places, and no cash settlement is made with workmen until the end of the blast, or when the men desire to leave. From time to time trifling sums of money are paid on account. The blast generally depends on the condition of the crucible, and the amount of charcoal made the preceding year; it

generally lasts ten to eleven months. If employes make a practice of drawing money and trading at other than the company's store, they are soon informed that they can go elsewhere and look for work. Goods are from 25 to 35 per cent. higher than elsewhere. The store orders are not transferable, so that they cannot be sold to get cash ; the company keeps a ledger account with each man.

*Salem, Dent Co.*—The iron mine at this place has a large number of men at work and settles with them in cash every month. They state : " We issue orders at the request of the men, to any and all stores of the town, with the understanding that our orders are current at any store, whether such store is named in the order or not. This makes the order as good as cash. Orders are issued weekly to accommodate the men. No one is ever asked to take an order, and there are men who have worked in our mines for the past six years, and who have never taken any, but wait and get the cash."

#### IRON MINERS' STATEMENTS.

*Annapolis, Iron Co.*—The Peckham Iron Works has a store here, where the men are compelled to trade out the greater part of their earnings, and every two weeks, if there is any money coming to them, they are paid off. But as the company holds one-third of each man's wages to begin with, the men of course cannot do otherwise than to trade out their earnings at the store ; and, hence, very few ever get any money. The prices are extremely high and orders are sometimes given on other stores for articles not in the company's store. Wages are, on an average, five dollars per week. Every man should have his pay in cash once a week and trade where he pleases. These due bills and the company stores are the ruin of a poor man.

*Pilot Knob, Iron Co.*—Eleven returns from this mine agree that wages range from \$5.30 to \$7.50 per week, and about two hundred men are at work. The company pay the men monthly in checks receivable at par in any store, and keep one week's pay until the men leave its employ. The company has a store but does not compel the men to trade there, unless they see fit. It is true that many of the men cannot wait until the end of the month, and are thus compelled to trade in the company's store.

*Iron Mountain, St. Francois Co.*—At the mines of the Iron Mountain Company, about 300 men are employed at from \$5.00 to \$7.50 per week. The regular pay-day is once every three months, when a complete settlement in cash is made in full, except two weeks' pay, which remains in the company's hands. The company has a store and prices

are from five to fifteen per cent. higher than elsewhere. If men cannot wait three months, until the regular pay-day, weekly payments of half cash and half store orders are made. The following is a sample of a written store order sent to the Bureau.

Iron Mountain Co. Please pay to bearer \_\_\_\_\_ in store goods, \$\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ cts.

[Signed] \_\_\_\_\_, Superintendent.

These orders are on the company's store, and although the men are not peremptorily ordered to trade there, yet, as one of the miners well explains it: "What poor man of family can wait three months for cash in full? Our earnings are so small that the half cash we get every week is not enough to keep us, and thus we have to ask for orders and trade at the store and do the best we can." If the men could wait for the quarterly pay-day they would get cash in full. But as it is, they are forced, by their poverty, to take the store orders and a small trifle in cash every week. Married men have house rent free and a small patch of garden. Board for single men is 40 cents per day, which is paid the boarding house keepers the same as the men, in part cash and part store-pay at the company's store, and deducted from the men's earnings.

#### LEAD MINES.

As in all other mining occupations in the State, the men employed in the lead industry are working, in numerous instances, under the truck system. The following is a summary of the returns from employers:

*Potosi, Washington Co.*—In December, 1879, a certain company in Potosi, then paying cash weekly, reported to the Bureau that they proposed to then start a store, where the miners in their employ would have to trade.

*Old Mines, Washington Co.*—A store is here located in connection with the mines, and is run by the same firm. The men trade on a book account and have cash settlements every month.

*Kingston, Washington Co.*—Here at this place is a company store where the men are expected to trade. They do so on book account, and none are allowed to draw in excess of their daily wages. Cash is paid monthly after the store bills are deducted.

*Alma Mines, Christian Co.*—The company operating here has a store, and the men are paid in orders, good only at the store. Every Saturday night they receive part cash and part trade.

Another party (lead mining company) in the vicinity of the Alma Mines, has a store and pays in the foregoing manner:

*Southwest Missouri.*—In Granby, Joplin, Webb City, Silver Lake, and nearly all the mining towns of this region, the men work on the share system, and are paid in cash warrants on delivery of ore.. Very few of the stores known to the southeast lead region are known here. One mine in Webb City pays monthly in cash, but gives a time check every week which the men can cash with the company at five per cent. discount.

#### LEAD MINERS' STATEMENTS.

*Mine La Motte, Madison Co.*—Seventeen returns from Mine La Motte substantiate the following: Nearly one hundred men are at work here in the various occupations of smelting lead, and are employed by a party resident in Rhode Island. Wages are paid in merchandise checks; these checks are partly cashed on Wednesdays, a full settlement being made only once every three months. The following is a sample of the checks paid weekly:

		(FORM 1)
No. L	8011	MINE LA MOTTE,..... .18
THE MINE LA MOTTE STORE,		
<i>Deliver to</i> .....		Dollars,
.....		
<i>In merchandise only.</i>		
\$.....	R. HAZARD.	

The following extracts from returns give additional evidence as to the mode of payment:

*No. 394. Mine La Motte.* We get paid every week in store checks calling for "merchandise only." If we do not trade them all out for goods we get some cash on the following Wednesday, but very little.

*No. 1067. Mine La Motte.* Our wages are paid weekly in store orders, but are partly cashed if desired.

*Bonne Terre, St. Francois Co.* Thirty-eight returns received from employes of the St. Joseph and Des Loge Lead Companies indicate that the truck system rules supreme. Each company employs a large

number of hands in the various occupations of mining and smelting lead. Persons employed by the above companies have to work three months before they can draw any wages in cash; at the end of that time they are paid one month's wages, two months' pay remaining in the company's possession until such time as an employe leaves their service. Merchandise checks are issued by both companies for one and five dollars respectively, good for merchandise in their stores. These checks can be drawn at any time the employe's earnings amount to the sum the check calls for.

The following are *fac similie*s:

5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
25												
<b>DESLOGE LEAD COMPANY'S STORE.</b>												
<i>Pay to</i> _____												
25												
<b>FIVE DOLLARS IN MERCANDISE,</b>												
25												
<b>LESS AMOUNTS PUNCHED FROM MARGIN.</b>												
25												
<i>No.</i> _____ <i>Sup't.</i> _____												
25												
10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10
50												
50												
50												
50												
50												

5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
25												
<b>ST. JOSEPH LEAD COMPANY'S STORE.</b>												
<i>Pay to</i> _____												
25												
<b>FIVE DOLLARS IN MERCANDISE,</b>												
25												
<b>LESS AMOUNTS PUNCHED FROM MARGIN.</b>												
25												
<i>No.</i> _____ <i>Sup't.</i> _____												
25												
10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10
50												
50												
50												
50												
50												

5		5		5		5		5		5		5		5		5
---	--	---	--	---	--	---	--	---	--	---	--	---	--	---	--	---

### DESLOGE LEAD COMPANY'S STORE.

*Pay to* \_\_\_\_\_

ONE DOLLAR IN MERCHANDISE,

LESS AMOUNTS PUNCHED FROM MARGIN.

No. \_\_\_\_\_

— — — Sup't.

5		5		5		5		5		5		5		5		5
---	--	---	--	---	--	---	--	---	--	---	--	---	--	---	--	---

Not Transferable.

5		5		5		5		5		5		5		5		5
---	--	---	--	---	--	---	--	---	--	---	--	---	--	---	--	---

### ST. JOSEPH LEAD COMPANY'S STORE.

*Pay to* \_\_\_\_\_

ONE DOLLAR IN MERCHANDISE,

LESS AMOUNTS PUNCHED FROM MARGIN.

No. \_\_\_\_\_

— — — Sup't.

5		5		5		5		5		5		5		5		5
---	--	---	--	---	--	---	--	---	--	---	--	---	--	---	--	---

Not Transferable.

The following extracts are from returns filled out by employees working at the above named mines:

No. 1090. "We have to work three months before we receive any cash money, and then we only receive one month's pay, first deducting our store orders and check accounts."

No. 1118. "The company I work for keeps back our wages for three months in order to compel us to trade in their store. They charge more for their goods than they can be bought for elsewhere."

No. 1214. "Our company pays monthly after a person has worked for them three months, but always retaining two months' wages"

No. 1105. "We are compelled to take store orders, for we do not receive any

cash until we work three months, after which time we receive payments monthly ; what has not been taken out in goods we get in cash."

No. 1913. "I have worked here since 1878. My wages were two dollars per shift (per day) until about six months ago ; they were then reduced to one dollar. When I was getting two dollars per shift, meat sold at Company's store from 16 to 22 cents per pound, at other stores from 10 to 13 cents ; flour \$4.00 to \$4.50 per hundred, at other stores \$3 ; shoes, \$2.50 to \$3.00 per pair, in other places they could be bought for \$1.50 to \$2. In 1874, '75 and '76 they were behind in paying wages from four to five months, which proved very injurious to us. We were not able to command our money in time to buy produce from farmers when it was cheap. I have known my neighbors to pay one hundred per cent. more at Company's store by not having their cash to go elsewhere. It is a great loss to the laborer to not get his money in time to use it to the best advantage."

No. 141. "Miners employed by the lead companies here have to wait three months before they can get any cash, and not much then, for all the checks one draws during the three months are deducted from the first month's account. After paying board there is not much left ; just about three-fourths checks and one-fourth cash is the rule here."

#### MACHINISTS.

Seventeen returns from employes in this trade show that five are paid weekly, two semi-monthly and ten monthly, in cash. One return from "Crystal City" contains the following : "The Crystal City Glass Company keep a store ; prices are 15 per cent. higher than elsewhere. We are not forced to trade at the company's store if we can get along and keep money enough ahead to defray expenses from one month to another. The company reserves the right to furnish all supplies, allowing no other store but its own within the limits of the town, which is its property."

Of five returns, received from machine shops, three pay weekly, one semi-monthly and one monthly, all in cash.

#### ENGINEERS.

Four are paid weekly in cash, and three semi-monthly ; one has to trade in a store, where prices are ten per cent. higher than elsewhere. No. 1335, Warrensburg, gets orders on stores and has one month's pay kept back.

#### PAINTERS.

Ten employers report paying wages weekly in cash. Of the twelve returns received from employes, nine are paid weekly, in cash, the balance irregularly. Three, employed in Etna, Warrensburg and West Plains, report being paid part cash and part store orders.

#### PLANING MILLS.

Seven firms pay weekly, one semi-monthly, and one monthly in cash; four pay part cash and part store orders. Returns from five employes show that they are paid in cash, one weekly, the others semi-monthly.

#### PLASTERERS.

Seventeen returns from employes in this trade, report, as a rule, wages are paid in cash every two weeks; only in a few instances is it otherwise.

#### POTTERIES AND STONEWARE.

From this branch of industry eight returns were received by the Bureau. Four firms pay weekly in cash; one monthly; three part cash and part store orders. These firms are situated in Henry, Madison and Vernon counties, and checks and store orders are given on stores where these firms sell goods.

#### PRINTERS.

All pay cash weekly, except three; one firm in Hannibal pays in orders or cash, at the option of the employes. In Springfield and in Joplin there is in each a printing establishment that pays wages in part cash and part store orders.

Of the twenty-one reports received from employes, eighteen are paid weekly in cash; three, part cash and part store orders. Two are employed in Kansas City, the other in West Plains.

#### RAILROADS.

Eight railroad companies report paying monthly in cash, and one semi-monthly.

Fifty-three returns from railroad employes in various occupations, substantiate the following: While railroad companies pay monthly in cash or bank checks, it is a common practice on nearly all the railroads in the State, to retain from fifteen days' to two months' wages at every pay day. This causes great suffering to this large class of workmen in the State. Why railroad companies should retain the few hard earned dollars from their employes for months, is a *mystery*, when it is an established fact that they do a cash business; that a steady stream of cash from passenger and freight traffic is pouring into the companies treasuries daily.

In reference to the retention of wages one return says:

No. 1186. *Hannibal*.—"There should be a law to compel corporations to pay regularly and have a regular pay-day, and to not allow them to keep so much back-pay. It would be a great benefit to all workingmen to get their money at least once a month in full."

Another return says:

No. 464. *St. Louis*.—"The rule, in force with all railroad corporations, is, paying wages monthly, but sometimes keeping it back for a longer period, which is a gross imposition and an injustice. The company I am working for compels its hands, when they engage employment, to work two months and twenty-five days before they receive any wages, and then they get only one month's pay, the company retaining one month and twenty-five days' wages."

Another employe, who has been a victim of this iniquitous system, says:

No. 14. *Hannibal*.—"The railroad company I work for retains from one to three months' back pay, although, I believe, there is a law in this State by which they are required to pay monthly. But workingmen, as a general rule, have not moral courage enough to make them pay, for fear they might loose their situations. There might be a good deal done by the Legislature on this point, if the working classes were properly represented."

Another return from Trenton, says:

"Wages here are paid monthly, on or about the 25th of the month, and then only for the preceding month; or, in other words, twenty-five days' wages are retained by the company."

#### STONE CUTTERS.

Five returns from employers state that they pay monthly in cash. Eleven returns from employes in this trade, show that they receive their wages every two weeks in cash.

#### TOBACCO WORKS.

All those making returns, pay weekly in cash, except one, who has three sons at work, and they are also partners in the business. In Foristelle, St. Charles county, one firm employs twenty-four hands, and generally pays cash, but very often in store orders. In Cameron, Clinton county, and Springfield, Greene county, the practice of paying wages partly in cash and partly in store orders, prevails in this trade.

**MISCELLANEOUS EMPLOYERS.**

Of the forty returns received by the Bureau from miscellaneous employers, wages are paid as follows: Twenty-two pay weekly, three semi-monthly, and ten monthly, all in cash. The other five pay as follows: A white lead firm at Joplin pays part cash and part store orders. A copper mine near St. Genevieve pays cash on delivery of ore. A flax mill at High Point pays weekly in store orders. A firm in St. Louis, manufacturing paper boxes, pay men weekly, and women once a month, in cash.

**MISCELLANEOUS EMPLOYES.**

Under this head will be found the returns of fifty-eight persons employed in various occupations. Thirty-seven are paid weekly in cash, six semi-monthly, seven monthly, and two any time they call for it. A brick-maker in St. Joseph, a cordwainer at Hannibal, a laborer in Howell county, and a mechanic in Irondale, are partly paid in cash and partly in store orders. Also a clerk in Springfield and a laborer at Pineville, are paid in the same manner.

A correspondent from Phelps county sends the following "scrip," issued by a firm doing business in the above county:

DUE IN MERCHANDISE,

**10 CTS.**

M. IRON MINING CO.

DUE IN MERCHANDISE,

**5 CTS.**

M. IRON MINING CO.

This is about as low as checks and scrip can descend. Comment is unnecessary to the thinking mind, when not even a *nickel* of lawful money is allowed in the hands of those who earn their living by the sweat of their brow. And if ever men were justified to go on strike, the men of Phelps county would be, if they struck against such an abominable system of the payment of wages.

This system of paying the workmen in checks or truck exists in many other States; and the fact also exists, that laws have been

enacted to suppress this rapidly growing evil, with but little or no effect. This experience proves that the system can only be abolished by a law prohibiting it, and making it the sworn duty of the prosecuting attorney in every county to prosecute offenders.

The effects of this rapidly growing evil on the community where it exists, has been seen by leading men in the country; and as far back as 1863. Governor Curtin, of Pennsylvania, in his message to the Legislature, said :

"It has come to my knowledge, that in some parts of the State a system exists of paying the wages of workmen and laborers, not in money, but in orders on storekeepers for merchandise and other articles. This system, by preventing all competition, leaves the men to the uncontrolled discretion of the storekeepers. It is a system most unwise and unjust, and it affects classes of useful citizens, who, as they live by the proceeds of their daily labor, have not adequate means to resist it. I have no doubt that most of the difficulties which occasionally occur between employers and their workmen are due to the prevalence of this system. That every man for a day's labor should receive a fair day's wages, is but the dictate of common honesty. And while it would be most unwise for the State to interfere at all with the rate of wages, it is, in my judgment, incumbent on her to protect the laboring population by requiring that whatever may be the wages stipulated, they shall be so paid that the recipient may purchase necessaries for himself and family, where they can be had best and cheapest. I do most earnestly recommend this subject to the Legislature for prompt and effectual action."

Several times, since the above recommendation, bills have been introduced at different sessions of the Pennsylvania Legislature to suppress the truck system, but for some reason never became a law.

As early as 1864, the Legislature of the State of New Jersey passed the following law, entitled :

"AN ACT for the better securing of wages to workmen and laborers in the State of New Jersey," approved May 14, 1864.

SECTION 1. That it shall not be lawful for any ironmaster, foundryman, collier, factoryman or company, their agents or clerks, to pay the wages of workers or laborers by them employed, in either printed, written or verbal orders, except for the payment of money, upon any storekeepers or other dealers in merchandise or other articles, whether connected in business with the said ironmaster, foundryman, collier, factoryman or company, or not. Any iron master, foundryman, collier, factoryman, or company or employer, paying to said workman or laborer so as aforesaid by him employed, or authorizing their agent or agents or storekeepers so to do as aforesaid, shall forfeit the amount of said pay, or any part of the wages of said workman or laborer given in orders upon any such store, except as aforesaid, or any orders so given or paid, and the same shall not be offset against the wages of said workman or laborer, but he shall be entitled to recover the full amount of his wages as though no such order or orders had been given or paid; and no settlement made with such employer shall bar such action until the lapse of six months after such settlement.

SEC. 2. That the provisions of this act extend to all seamstresses or females employed in factories or otherwise.

SEC. 3. That this act shall be taken and deemed a public act, and take effect on the 4th day of July, 1864, except in the counties of Morris, Sussex, Somerset, Middlesex, Monmouth, Burlington, Warren, Ocean and Hunterdon, which counties are especially excepted from the provisions of this act; and excepting also the county of Essex, in which said county this act shall take effect on the 5th day of January, 1865."

And again, in 1877, the following supplementary act with a penalty attached, the letter of which the New Jersey Labor Report for 1879 admits, was inadequate to effect what the law was specially designed to do, to shield the laborers from the evils they complained of, i. e., in being compelled to trade in the company's store:

"AN ACT for the better securing of wages to workmen and laborers in the State of New Jersey," approved March 9, 1877.

1. That it shall not be lawful for any person or corporation in this State, to issue, for the payment of labor, any order or other paper whatsoever, unless the same purport to be redeemable for its face value, in lawful money of the United States, by the person giving or issuing the same: *Provided, however,* Nothing in this act contained shall be held to prevent any employer from making any deduction for money due him from any laborer or employee.

2. That if any person or corporation shall issue for payment of labor, in violation of the first section of this act, he, she or they shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and, upon conviction thereof, shall be fined in any sum not to exceed five hundred dollars, at the discretion of the court."

Through the able efforts of the Ohio Bureau of Labor, in its exposure of the evils of the truck system in that State, the Legislature, in 1878, passed the following acts:

"AN ACT to punish certain offenses therein named."

SECTION 1. Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Ohio: That it shall be unlawful for any person, firm or corporation to pay wages of labor in goods or supplies, through the intervention of scrip or any other evidence of indebtedness, or otherwise, at higher prices than current cash for like goods and supplies at the nearest retail market: *Provided,* That the actual cost of transportation of such goods and supplies, from such nearest market to the place of sale, may be added.

SEC 2. It shall be unlawful for any person, firm or corporation to sell goods or supplies to laborers on orders or other evidence of indebtedness issued to such laborers by their employers, or to sell to laborers by any arrangement with their employers, by which such laborers are to receive such goods or supplies on their wages at higher prices than current cash rates for like goods and supplies at the nearest retail market. *Provided,* That actual cost of the transportation of such goods and supplies, from such nearest market to the place of sale, may be added.

Section 3. Any person making any sale in violation of this act, whether as principal, agent, clerk or otherwise, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and, upon conviction thereof, shall be fined not less than five dollars nor more than fifty dollars.

Section 4. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its passage.

AN ACT supplementary to an act "to amend, and revise, and consolidate the Statutes relating to crimes and offenses, and to repeal certain acts therein named, to be known as title one, crimes and offenses, part four of the act to revise and consolidate the General Statutes of Ohio," passed May 5, 1877, vol. 74, p. 240.

Section 1. Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Ohio: That it shall be unlawful for any person, firm, company or corporation to issue or use any scrip, token, check, draft, or certificate of indebtedness, payable otherwise than in money in the payment of or accounting to any person for the wages of work and labor.

Section 2. It shall be unlawful for any person, firm, company or corporation to issue, use, or circulate, or caused to be issued, used or circulated, any check, token, promise in writing, or evidence of indebtedness, designed, intended, or calculated to be circulated or issued as money or in lieu of money, other than lawful money of the United States.

Section 3. Any person or persons offending against any of the provisions of this act, shall be held guilty of a misdemeanor, and, upon conviction thereof, before any court of competent jurisdiction, shall be fined in any sum not less than ten dollars nor more than one hundred dollars.

Section 4. This act shall take effect from and after its passage.

The law to suppress the truck system in Ohio, as in New Jersey, is inoperative, the defect being that there was no one, outside the laborer, who was dependent on his labor, to prosecute any one found violating the law. The law was more effectually carried out in England, because it made it the duty of the inspector of mines and factories to prosecute all infractions of the law, and in general they did their duty fearlessly and faithfully.

Notwithstanding the declaration of the "Bill of Rights," that all constitutional government is intended to promote the general welfare of the people, "that all persons have a natural right to life, liberty, and the enjoyment of the gains of their own industry," the only instance on record in the legislative history of Missouri to abolish the iniquitous *truck system*, which has been shown to rob the laborer "of the enjoyment of the gains of his own industry," was defeated in the thirtieth General Assembly, by the failure of the bill introduced by Hon. Henry Manistre, of which the following is a copy:

AN ACT to provide for the payment of the wages of labor in the lawful money of the United States.—(House Bill No. 490.)

Section 1. Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Missouri: That it shall not be lawful for any corporation in the State to issue, circulate, or pay out, for the payment of the wages of labor, any order, note, check, memorandum, token or other obligation, unless the same is redeemable, at face value, in the lawful money of the United States by the person or corporation issuing the same.

Section 2. In suits at law for the recovery of wages due by a corporation for labor done, no payment or cancellation against such claim for wages shall be allowed, except for lawful money of the United States actually paid by or upon the order of such corporation on account of such wages.

Section 3. That if any officer of any corporation issue for the payment of wages of labor, any order, check, memorandum, token or obligation, in violation of the first section of this act, any officer of such corporation shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and, upon conviction thereof, shall be fined in any sum not to exceed five hundred dollars, or imprisonment not to exceed six months, or both, at the discretion of the court."

#### CONCLUSION.

It is only when wrong, injustice and oppression, public and private, are made the subject of authoritative and special investigation, that their pernicious influences and effects are brought fully into view. While repeated acts of oppression only reach the public ear through an occasional remonstrance from the oppressed, the oppressor is permitted, unnoticed, to continue his inhuman work until the down-trodden rebel and break out in open violence. It is then that the State thinks it is time to take notice. Then, for the preservation of the public peace, its forces must be summoned and its engines of destruction brought to bear upon the heads of its own children. Law and order vindicated, too frequently by the sacrifice of human life; there seem to be none induced to probe the evil to the core, to find out the causes which have brought about such an abnormal state of affairs. The numerous and aggravated character of the evils, brought to light through the investigations of the Bureau, will tax the wisdom and ripest experience of those who aspire to the distinction of legislators.

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**PART II.**

**EARNINGS AND EXPENSES.**

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## EARNINGS AND EXPENSES.

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Especial pains have been taken, in one way or another, to make it appear that the American laborer has very little, if any, just cause for complaint on the ground of inadequate remuneration of labor. When it was shown by official statistics that American labor was better paid than the so-called pauper labor of Europe, a conclusive, if not convincing, argument was supposed to be furnished to prove the groundlessness of the complaint; or, should it still be persisted in, that the complaint was without adequate or reasonable cause. To those who entertain this view of the subject, and take it as a stand-point from which to present the results of their investigations, a careful study of the table of the earnings and cost of living of intelligent workmen and their families, obtained promiscuously from various parts of the State, is submitted.

When nearly two-thirds (97 out of 147) of the entire number of returns received, declare that for the last five years earnings have not covered expenses, we think we are fully justified in rejecting such conclusions as those referred to above; but another and far more serious objection presents itself in this view of the question. It is partial and incomplete, where impartiality and completeness are indispensably necessary to correct conclusions. For instance, in the report of Secretary Evarts, on the state of labor in Europe, 1879, the wages of labor and cost and style of living are given, but the value of the product of labor is *not* given. To omit this important factor in any statistical work on labor and its just renumeration, is like building a steam engine without a fireplace to produce the steam. Take, "for illustration, a single case of what a report on labor should include in order to obtain definite or satisfactory results. The capital employed in manufacturing in this State in 1878, according to the valuable pamphlet issued by the 'State Board of Immigration,' was 'one hundred million dollars,' material used, 'one hundred and fifty-million dollars,' wages, 'forty-million dollars,' and the market value of the products over 'two hundred and fifty-million dollars.'" In other words, the value of the products

TABLE III.—EARNINGS

No. of return.	OCCUPATION.	FAMILY.		ANNUAL EARNINGS.			ANNUAL		
		Adults.	Youth.	Head of family.	Others in family.	Total.	Rent.	Fuel.	
18	Railroad machinist.....	2	2	\$580 00	.....	\$580 00	\$120 00	\$24 00	
20	Railroad carpenter.....	2	.....	525 00	.....	525 00	77 00	18 00	
22	Machinist.....	2	3	400 00	.....	400 00	100 00	30 00	
26	Jaher.....	2	6	780 00	\$40 00	820 00	120 00	36 00	
29	Brickmaker.....	2	3	375 00	.....	375 00	96 00	25 00	
47	Carriagemaker.....	2	3	500 00	.....	500 00	90 00	60 00	
57	Laborer.....	2	2	216 00	.....	216 00	60 00	10 00	
58	Lanternmaker.....	2	6	486 00	.....	486 00	108 00	18 00	
61	Laborer.....	2	2	870 00	.....	370 00	52 00	18 00	
106	Carpenter.....	2	5	293 00	45 50	338 50	.....	28 00	
106	Cooper.....	2	.....	288 00	.....	288 00	42 00	12 00	
117	Carpenter.....	2	5	280 00	.....	260 00	.....	40 00	
151	Carpenter.....	2	5	421 00	.....	421 00	78 00	15 00	
204	Cigarmaker.....	2	.....	650 00	.....	650 00	120 00	35 00	
219	Cigarmaker.....	2	3	400 00	.....	400 00	84 00	12 00	
221	Cigarmaker.....	4	2	450 00	.....	450 00	.....	25 00	
229	Cigarmaker.....	2	4	300 00	*600 00	900 00	200 00	50 00	
233	Millwright.....	2	4	280 00	.....	280 00	48 00	18 00	
261	Compositor.....	2	1	650 00	.....	650 00	90 00	18 00	
274	Carpenter.....	2	3	450 00	.....	450 00	96 00	20 00	
275	Carpenter.....	2	8	534 00	.....	534 00	72 00	21 00	
289	Carpenter.....	2	3	480 00	50 00	530 00	96 00	50 00	
294	Blacksmith.....	2	1	250 00	.....	250 00	84 00	24 00	
304	Carpenter.....	2	4	500 00	.....	500 00	120 00	30 00	
809	Carpenter.....	2	2	420 00	.....	420 00	84 00	20 00	
300	Teamster.....	2	3	468 00	.....	468 00	92 00	18 00	
318	Rollingmill hand.....	2	.....	250 00	.....	250 00	56 00	15 00	
226	Carpenter.....	2	3	504 00	.....	504 00	72 00	30 00	
329	Stairbuilder.....	2	4	365 00	.....	865 00	96 00	20 00	
355	Carpenter.....	2	1	400 00	.....	400 00	96 00	8 00	
841	Engineer.....	3	.....	520 00	150 00	670 00	84 00	20 00	
849	Lead miner.....	3	5	260 00	.....	260 00	24 00	30 00	
350	Harnessmaker.....	2	1	300 00	8 00	830 00	72 00	20 00	
857	Harnessmaker.....	2	1	480 00	.....	480 00	90 00	40 00	
370	Laborer.....	2	.....	250 00	.....	250 00	60 00	20 00	
483	Cooper.....	2	.....	450 00	.....	450 00	96 00	48 00	
447	Harnessmaker.....	2	.....	280 00	.....	280 00	72 00	16 00	
448	Laborer.....	2	.....	500 00	.....	300 00	.....	52 00	
554	Switchman.....	2	2	814 00	.....	814 00	120 00	35 00	
480	Switchman.....	2	1	484 00	.....	484 00	96 00	18 00	
481	Engineer.....	2	4	650 00	.....	650 00	132 00	23 00	
482	Switchman.....	3	2	602 00	.....	602 00	96 00	24 00	
465	Plasterer.....	2	4	400 00	150 00	550 00	.....	15 00	
466	Plasterer.....	2	4	336 00	.....	336 00	72 00	24 00	
477	Switchman.....	3	3	568 00	.....	568 00	108 00	15 00	
495	Railroad machinist.....	1	4	700 00	.....	700 00	108 00	30 00	
506	Blacksmith.....	3	4	315 00	.....	315 00	85 00	15 00	
512	Patternmaker.....	2	.....	430 00	.....	430 00	84 00	20 00	
521	Carpenter.....	2	5	569 00	.....	569 00	108 00	16 00	
537	Saddler.....	4	.....	148 00	800 00	448 00	130 00	20 00	
539	Saddler.....	2	2	240 00	.....	240 00	72 00	20 00	
541	Plasterer.....	2	4	800 00	.....	300 00	72 00	20 00	

\*Wife teacher in public school.

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## AND EXPENSES.

EXPENSES.						EXCESS OF		Have earnings for five years covered expenses
Groceries and provisions.	Recreation.	Clothing.	Education.	Other expenses	Total.	Earnings over expenses.	Expenses over earnings.	
\$300 00	\$10 00	\$125 00	\$17 00	.....	\$596 00	.....	\$16 00	No.
265 00	3 75	60 00	5 25	\$85 00	514 00	\$11 00	.....	No.
275 00	.....	.....	.....	50 00	455 00	.....	55 00	No.
365 00	8 00	180 00	24 00	60 00	788 00	32 00	.....	Yes.
190 00	35 00	75 00	28 00	85 00	534 00	.....	159 00	No.
72 00	.....	125 00	30 00	95 00	472 00	28 00	.....	Yes.
208 00	.....	25 00	.....	.....	303 00	.....	87 00	No.
150 00	.....	40 00	15 00	180 00	481 00	5 00	.....	No.
250 00	7 00	40 00	5 00	34 00	406 00	.....	36 00	No.
167 00	.....	87 00	28 00	89 00	339 50	.....	1 00	No.
130 00	.....	58 45	50	80 00	322 95	.....	84 95	No.
160 00	.....	67 00	8 00	20 00	295 00	.....	35 00	No.
150 00	2 00	75 00	22 00	100 00	442 00	.....	21 00	No.
200 00	.....	90 00	10 00	100 00	555 00	95 00	.....	Yes.
300 00	2 50	55 00	1 50	100 00	455 00	.....	55 00	No.
160 00	10 00	100 00	8 50	50 00	353 00	87 00	.....	Yes.
150 00	100 00	150 00	100 00	150 00	900 00	.....	.....	No.
75 00	.....	60 00	10 00	89 00	250 00	30 00	.....	No.
250 00	28 00	60 00	20 00	25 00	491 00	159 00	.....	Yes.
260 00	.....	50 00	10 00	14 00	450 00	.....	.....	No.
875 00	2 00	35 00	12 00	10 00	527 00	7 00	.....	Yes.
800 00	.....	70 00	4 00	.....	520 00	10 00	.....	No.
200 00	.....	50 00	2 00	75 00	485 00	.....	185 00	No.
225 00	.....	85 00	15 00	150 00	625 00	.....	125 00	No.
260 00	.....	50 00	2 60	90 00	506 60	.....	86 60	No.
160 00	5 00	200 00	10 00	.....	485 00	.....	17 00	No.
200 00	.....	20 00	.....	75 00	365 00	.....	115 00	No.
312 00	50	50 00	3 50	10 00	478 00	26 00	.....	Had to.
800 00	8 00	60 00	4 50	10 00	498 00	.....	183 00	No.
312 00	2 00	40 00	8 00	20 00	486 00	.....	86 00	No.
260 00	40 00	75 00	2 50	100 00	581 00	89 00	.....	Yes.
150 00	7 00	50 00	4 00	20 00	285 00	.....	25 00	No.
250 00	25 00	75 00	5 00	3 00	425 00	.....	95 00	No.
812 00	5 00	50 00	2 50	80 00	529 50	.....	49 50	No.
180 00	20 00	80 00	10 00	80 00	350 00	.....	100 00	No.
160 00	80 00	50 00	7 00	87 00	470 00	.....	20 00	No.
175 00	.....	75 00	12 00	.....	350 00	.....	70 00	No.
210 00	.....	50 00	5 20	.....	289 20	10 80	.....	No.
800 00	.....	50 00	12 00	150 00	667 00	147 00	.....	Yes.
246 00	.....	30 00	1 50	50 00	464 00	20 00	.....	No.
365 00	12 00	80 00	20 00	18 00	650 00	.....	.....	Yes.
390 00	5 00	78 00	2 00	10 00	605 00	.....	8 00	No.
200 00	.....	80 00	3 00	100 00	398 00	152 00	.....	Hardly.
290 00	.....	30 00	60	25 00	441 00	.....	105 00	No.
300 00	45 00	75 00	5 00	20 00	568 00	.....	.....	No.
860 00	10 00	80 00	20 00	80 00	688 00	12 00	.....	No.
312 00	.....	40 00	2 60	185 00	639 00	.....	324 00	No.
250 00	5 00	50 00	12 00	75 00	496 00	.....	66 00	No.
340 00	25 00	50 00	15 00	50 00	604 00	.....	85 00	No.
120 00	.....	50 00	2 50	10 00	822 00	126 00	.....	Yes.
208 00	.....	20 00	8 00	45 00	368 00	.....	128 00	No.
120 00	5 00	50 00	3 00	80 00	800 00	.....	.....	Yes.

TABLE III.—Continued.

No. of return.	OCCUPATION.	FAMILY.		ANNUAL EARNINGS.			ANNUAL	
		Adults.	Youth.	Head of family	Others in fam- ily.	Total.	Rent.	Fuel.
543	Plasterer.....	3	1	460 00	800 00	760 00	84 00	12 00
548	Plasterer .....	2	2	600 00	.....	600 00	.....	30 00
549	Lead miner.....	2	1	250 00	.....	250 00	24 00	15 00
551	Harnessmaker.....	2	.....	625 00	.....	625 00	98 00	20 00
558	Harnessmaker.....	3	1	500 00	200 00	700 00	114 00	21 00
559	Harnessmaker.....	2	4	400 00	.....	400 00	72 00	20 00
565	Pressman.....	2	1	875 00	.....	875 00	70 00	15 00
801	Carpenter.....	2	.....	300 00	.....	300 00	60 00	40 00
605	Printer.....	2	4	550 00	.....	550 00	120 00	25 00
620	Coal miner.....	3	8	320 00	160 00	480 80	140 00	80 00
631	Truck builder.....	2	3	425 00	.....	425 00	.....	20 00
658	Railroad machinist.....	4	2	736 00	.....	736 00	*12 00	40 00
662	Coal miner.....	2	.....	250 00	.....	250 00	80 00	10 00
676	Coal miner.....	2	2	356 00	.....	856 00	100 00	60 00
687	Car painter.....	2	2	850 00	.....	850 00	.....	25 00
741	Master machinist.....	2	.....	700 00	.....	700 00	80 00	25 00
819	Painter.....	2	4	800 00	.....	800 00	.....	40 00
886	Cabinetmaker .....	3	6	400 00	.....	400 00	.....	50 00
887	Engineer.....	2	2	512 00	400 00	912 00	81 00	31 00
906	Lead miner.....	2	.....	410 00	.....	400 00	12 00	20 00
924	Cigarmaker .....	2	4	400 00	.....	400 00	84 00	20 00
983	Railroad machinist.....	2	2	780 00	.....	780 00	84 00	24 00
1,008	Railroad blacksmith .....	2	6	480 00	.....	480 00	*9 00	40 00
1,015	Iron miner.....	3	4	260 00	150 00	410 00	12 00	30 00
1,041	Carpenter.....	2	4	469 00	200 00	669 00	84 00	24 00
1,047	Tailor .....	2	2	350 00	.....	350 00	96 00	35 00
1,058	Lead miner.....	3	2	487 50	.....	487 50	89 00	45 00
1,067	Lead miner.....	2	5	250 00	.....	250 00	12 00	15 00
1,075	Lead miner.....	4	3	200 00	50 00	250 00	24 00	25 00
1,079	Lead miner.....	2	3	225 00	.....	225 00	12 00	25 00
1,116	Lead miner.....	2	3	450 00	.....	450 00	10 00	50 00
1,142	Locomotive fireman.....	2	.....	504 00	.....	504 00	1 20	20 00
1,186	Railroad blacksmith.....	2	5	275 00	.....	275 00	5 00	40 00
1,190	Blacksmith.....	2	3	700 00	.....	700 00	.....	40 00
1,196	Railroad machinist.....	2	2	490 00	.....	490 00	98 00	40 00
1,212	Iron miner.....	2	2	250 00	.....	250 00	24 00	20 00
1,294	Harnessmaker.....	2	1	800 00	.....	800 00	.....	15 00
1,299	Laborer.....	2	7	600 00	.....	600 00	.....	25 00
1,306	Cabinetmaker .....	3	2	306 00	72 00	378 00	85 00	25 00
1,325	Job printer.....	2	2	332 00	.....	332 00	42 00	30 00
1,334	Mason.....	2	5	432 00	.....	432 00	.....	50 00
1,336	Blacksmith.....	2	8	500 00	.....	500 00	.....	30 00
1,339	Marble cutter.....	3	1	265 00	.....	265 00	144 00	40 00
1,848	Engineer.....	2	1	720 00	.....	720 00	144 00	60 00
1,369	Engineer.....	2	1	700 00	.....	700 00	48 00	15 00
1,377	Blacksmith.....	4	.....	500 00	240 00	740 00	98 00	40 00
1,406	Engineer.....	3	3	300 00	50 00	350 00	.....	14 00
1,450	Coal miner.....	3	.....	300 00	90 00	390 00	42 00	30 00
1,471	Carpenter.....	4	2	260 00	.....	260 00	60 00	30 00
1,473	Railroad laborer.....	2	1	300 00	.....	300 00	60 00	15 00

\*Taxes.

TABLE III.—Continued.

EXPENSES.							EXCESS OF.	Have earnings for five years covered expenses
	Groceries and provisions.	Clothing.	Recreation.	Education.	Other expenses	Total.	Earnings over expenses.	Expenses over earnings.
\$360 00	\$30 00	\$100 00	\$ 8 00	\$ 50 00	\$644 00	\$116 00	.....	No.
250 00	15 00	75 00	15 00	.....	385 00	215 00	.....	Yes.
125 00	15 00	100 00	.....	20 00	299 00	.....	\$ 49 00	No.
275 00	20 00	80 00	20 00	75 00	586 00	39 00	.....	No.
365 00	20 00	97 00	25 00	58 00	700 00	.....	.....	Hardly.
240 00	52 00	75 00	6 00	.....	465 00	.....	65 00	No.
125 00	7 00	75 00	2 00	40 00	334 00	41 00	.....	Barely.
120 00	.....	60 00	5 00	15 00	300 00	.....	.....	Had to.
240 00	.....	120 00	20 00	50 00	575 00	.....	25 00	Hardly.
360 00	.....	40 00	5 00	10 00	585 00	.....	105 00	No.
280 00	2 60	50 00	14 00	100 00	466 00	.....	41 00	No.
430 00	2 00	125 00	12 00	115 00	734 00	2 00	.....	Barely.
†68 00	10 00	50 00	2 00	50 00	250 00	.....	.....	No.
240 00	.....	50 00	5 00	25 00	444 00	.....	88 00	Had to sell my house.
180 00	.....	175 00	10 00	100 00	490 00	360 00	.....	Yes.
275 00	10 00	175 00	25 00	125 00	695 00	5 00	.....	No.
200 00	25 00	100 00	10 00	25 00	400 00	400 00	.....	Yes.
250 00	.....	250 00	5 00	25 00	580 00	.....	180 00	No.
360 00	.....	200 00	25 00	105 00	810 00	102 00	.....	Had to.
100 00	10 00	50 00	4 00	150 00	346 00	54 00	.....	No.
200 00	25 00	75 00	20 00	.....	424 00	.....	24 00	No.
250 00	15 00	100 00	18 00	55 00	546 00	234 00	.....	Yes.
320 00	.....	80 00	5 00	25 00	479 00	1 00	.....	Yes.
150 00	12 00	50 00	.....	55 00	309 00	101 00	.....	No.
416 00	10 00	76 55	7 50	15 50	633 00	36 00	.....	No.
180 00	10 00	75 00	6 00	25 00	481 00	.....	81 00	No.
200 00	.....	70 00	5 00	5 00	459 00	28 50	.....	Yes.
150 00	10 00	50 00	5 00	20 00	260 00	.....	10 00	No.
130 00	10 00	50 00	10 00	10 00	259 00	.....	9 00	No.
175 00	10 00	20 00	5 00	5 00	232 00	.....	27 00	No.
172 00	.....	50 00	.....	150 00	432 00	18 00	.....	Yes.
180 00	5 00	50 00	.....	95 00	470 00	34 00	.....	No.
200 00	.....	10 00	7 00	20 00	282 00	.....	7 00	No.
240 00	20 00	.....	15 00	100 00	415 00	285 00	.....	Had to.
220 00	20 00	70 00	20 00	100 00	566 00	.....	76 00	No.
75 00	2 00	50 00	18 00	70 00	254 00	.....	4 00	No.
50 00	.....	100 00	2 00	100 00	267 00	33 00	.....	Yes.
240 00	40 00	200 00	.....	.....	505 00	95 00	.....	Yes.
30 00	5 00	120 00	25 00	86 00	376 00	2 00	.....	No.
127 00	3 00	35 00	8 00	25 00	376 00	.....	44 00	Yes.
200 00	.....	100 00	10 00	50 00	410 00	22 00	.....	Yes.
200 00	25 00	100 00	5 00	75 00	495 00	5 00	.....	Yes.
156 00	.....	25 00	6 50	12 00	388 00	.....	118 00	No.
200 00	.....	100 00	.....	25 00	529 00	191 00	.....	Yes.
20 00	.....	45 00	12 00	150 00	290 00	410 00	.....	Yes.
132 00	10 00	150 00	60 00	112 00	600 00	140 00	.....	Yes.
75 00	.....	100 00	.....	100 00	275 00	75 00	.....	Yes.
196 00	5 00	40 00	2 00	17 00	316 00	74 00	.....	Yes.
150 00	10 00	40 00	3 00	.....	293 00	.....	38 00	No.
100 00	.....	50 00	2 00	80 00	237 00	48 00	.....	Yes.

+Had a garden.

TABLE III.—Continued.

No. of return.	OCCUPATION.	FAMILY.		ANNUAL EARNINGS.			ANNUAL		
		Adults.	Youth.	Head of family.	Others in fam- ily.	Total.	Rent.		Fuel.
1,477	Railroad machinist.....	2	1	\$600 00		\$600 00	\$132 00		\$48 00
1,478	Boilermaker.....	2	1	295 00	\$98 25	393 25	108 00		48 00
1,496	Carpenter .....	2	4	477 00		477 00	96 00		28 00
1,517	Carpenter.....	3	3	312 00		312 00			18 00
1,558	Foreman lead furnace.....	2	1	780 00		780 00			15 00
1,556	Machinist.....	2	1	960 00		960 00			18 00
1,582	Cigarmaker.....	3	6	676 00	200 00	876 00	135 00		35 00
1,583	Cigarmaker .....	2	3	500 00		500 00	108 00		18 00
1,586	Carpenter.....	4	1	820 00		320 00	60 00		40 00
1,587	Cigarmaker.....	4	3	473 00	130 00	603 00	132 00		25 00
1,596	Cigarmaker .....	2	2	539 00		539 00	84 00		20 00
1,604	Carpenter .....	2	2	500 00		500 00	108 00		20 00
1,614	Tobacconist.....	8		450 00		450 00	84 00		18 00
1,642	Porter.....	2	1	720 00		720 00	100 00		25 00
1,693	Coal miner.....	2	1	800 00		300 00	48 00		25 00
1,709	Miller.....	3	3	720 00		720 00			30 00
1,714	Tailor.....	2	4	506 00		506 00			25 00
1,606	Coal miner.....	2	7	890 00		390 00			18 00
1,744	Coal miner.....	2	5	240 00		240 00			25 00
1,767	Machinist (Foreman)....	2	3	1,360 00		1,360 00	360 00		65 00
1,771	Carpenter.....	2	3	406 00		406 00	96 00		22 00
1,793	Machinist .....	2	1	689 00	80 00	719 00	180 00		25 00
1,799	Iron founder.....	2	2	500 00		500 00	72 00		25 00
1,802	Cigarmaker .....	2	5	936 00		936 00	144 00		50 00
1,806	Cigarmaker .....	2	2	300 00		300 00	84 00		15 00
1,815	Plasterer.....	2	7	390 00		390 00			30 00
1,823	Cigarmaker.....	2	5	350 00	50 00	400 00	72 00		15 00
1,826	Cigarmaker .....	2	4	400 00		400 00	72 00		20 00
1,828	Cigarmaker .....	2	4	400 00		400 60	96 00		26 00
1,834	Cigarmaker .....	2	1	276 00		276 00	78 00		15 00
1,835	Cigarmaker.....	2	2	260 00		260 00	72 00		25 00
1,694	Wagonmaker.....	3		450 00		450 00			25 00
607	Wagonmaker.....	5		275 00	800 00	575 00	72 00		25 00
1,046	Tailor.....	2	2	500 00		500 00	144 00		45 00
437	Cooper.....	2	2	432 00		432 00			18 00
430	Cooper.....	2	2	400 00		400 00	96 00		12 00
1,732	Coal miner.....	2	4	520 00		520 00	84 00		36 00
1,448	Coal miner.....	3	1	110 00		110 00	60 00		15 00
1,711	Coal miner.....	2		200 00		200 00	72 00		25 00
667	Coal miner.....	2		400 00		400 00	60 00		25 00
459	Harnessmaker.....	2	2	432 00		432 00	102 00		25 00
259	Bricklayer.....	2	2	528 00		528 00	67 00		15 00
24	Tobacconist.....	2	1	148 00		148 00	66 00		12 00
1,725	Coal miner.....	2	2	200 00		200 00	36 00		10 10
1,726	Coal miner.....	2	5	320 00		320 00	72 00		25 00

TABLE III.—Continued.

EXPENSES.							EXCESS OF		Have earnings for five years covered expenses
Groceries and provisions.	Recreation.	Clothing.	Education.	Other expenses	Total.	Earnings over expenses.	Expenses over earnings.		
\$180 00	\$25 00	\$100 00	\$5 00	\$100 00	\$590 00	\$10 00	.....	No.	
180 00	25 00	50 00	2 00	80 00	443 00	.....	\$49 75	No.	
312 00	.....	57 00	10 00	40 00	548 00	.....	66 00	No.	
144 00	5 00	150 00	25 00	100 00	442 00	.....	180 00	No.	
260 60	100 00	200 00	13 00	202 00	790 00	.....	10 00	Yes.	
240 00	20 00	100 00	10 00	112 00	500 00	460 00	.....	Yes.	
400 00	100 00	100 00	15 00	91 00	876 00	.....	.....	Yes.	
275 00	.....	75 00	17 20	25 00	518 00	.....	18 00	No.	
125 00	.....	75 00	15 00	50 00	865 00	.....	45 00	No.	
400 00	50 00	100 00	12 00	40 00	759 00	.....	156 00	No.	
200 00	100 00	100 00	.....	85 00	539 00	.....	.....	No.	
218 00	150 00	50 00	13 40	40 60	500 00	.....	.....	No.	
175 00	5 00	125 00	12 00	50 00	469 00	.....	19 00	No.	
312 00	40 00	100 00	2 00	60 00	639 00	81 00	.....	Yes.	
150 00	12 00	42 50	10 00	8 75	296 25	3 75	.....	Yes.	
225 00	80 00	200 00	12 00	125 00	622 00	98 00	.....	Yes.	
300 00	20 00	100 00	12 00	10 00	467 00	39 00	.....	Yes.	
288 00	24 00	40 00	27 00	5 00	402 00	.....	12 00	No.	
100 00	.....	50 00	5 00	60 00	240 00	.....	.....	No.	
300 00	50 00	100 00	80 00	400 00	1,305 00	55 00	.....	Yes.	
208 00	10 00	30 00	9 00	40 00	415 00	.....	9 00	No.	
240 00	50 00	85 00	6 00	40 00	626 00	93 00	.....	Yes.	
200 00	50 00	40 00	3 00	2 00	392 00	108 00	.....	Barely.	
400 00	100 00	180 00	25 00	50 00	959 00	.....	28 00	No.	
100 00	18 00	75 00	10 00	80 00	377 00	.....	77 00	No.	
365 00	.....	150 00	20 00	100 00	665 00	.....	275 00	No.	
144 00	55 00	75 00	10 00	50 00	421 00	.....	21 00	No.	
200 00	20 00	50 00	12 00	18 00	392 00	8 00	.....	No.	
200 00	20 00	45 00	8 00	5 00	400 00	.....	.....	No.	
108 00	.....	25 00	2 60	75 00	303 60	.....	27 60	No.	
140 00	80 00	20 00	6 00	.....	271 00	.....	11 00	No.	
200 00	29 00	60 00	8 00	16 00	838 00	112 00	.....	Yes.	
250 00	.....	150 00	20 00	.....	617 00	.....	42 00	No.	
260 00	50 00	75 00	12 00	25 00	551 00	.....	51 00	No.	
284 00	24 00	75 00	17 00	.....	418 00	14 00	.....	No.	
200 00	.....	80 00	7 20	.....	395 00	5 00	.....	No.	
360 00	15 00	60 00	8 00	.....	558 00	.....	38 00	No.	
280 00	.....	84 00	5 00	40 00	384 00	.....	274 00	No.	
160 00	.....	20 00	4 00	40 00	821 00	.....	121 00	No.	
240 00	50 00	100 00	10 00	.....	485 00	.....	86 00	No.	
315 00	.....	.....	10 40	.....	452 00	.....	20 00	No.	
240 00	15 00	80 00	5 00	50 00	422 00	106 00	.....	No.	
120 00	.....	15 00	.....	.....	213 00	.....	65 00	No.	
100 00	.....	30 00	2 75	25 00	203 75	.....	3 75	No.	
220 00	2 00	35 00	7 00	.....	359 00	.....	89 00	No.	

## TOTALS.

Total number of returns tabulated.....	147
Total number of persons in 147 families.....	694
Total earnings of 147 heads of families.....	\$65,402 05
Total earnings of others in family.....	4,058 75
Total earnings of all.....	69,460 80
Total expenses of 147 families.....	68,992 30
Total earnings over expenses.....	468 50
Total earnings over expenses by 61 families.....	5,410 55
Total expenses over earnings by 78 families.....	4,942 15
Total number of families whose earnings covered expenses.....	18

## AVERAGES.

Average number of persons to each family.....	4.72
Average earnings of 147 heads of families.....	\$444 91
Average earnings of others in family.....	162 81
Average earnings of all in families.....	472 52
Average expenses of 147 families. ....	469 33
Average earnings over expenses.....	8 11

## REDUCTION IN COST OF LIVING SINCE 1873.

In response to forty-four, requiring the per centage of reduction in prices of the four leading items of household expenses, rent, fuel, groceries and clothing, one hundred and forty-five returns out of five hundred and seventy-five (twenty-five per cent.) furnish the figures given in the following table. A comparison of the three leading cities, namely : St. Louis, Kansas City and St. Joseph, shows that while the returns from Kansas City show an advance of one hundred per cent. in rent and fuel, five out of thirteen report a reduction of twenty-three and thirty-eight in groceries and clothing; the reduction in all four items in St. Louis and St. Joseph were nearly all the same in both cities. The returns are tabulated for convenience of reference :

TABLE IV.  
PER CENTAGE OF REDUCTION IN COST OF LIVING.

Locality.	Rent.	Fuel.	Groceries.	Clothing.
Bevier.....	25	20	15	15
Bonne Terre.....	80	37	80	
Buffalo.....	25	15	20	50
Camden.....	20	22	27	25
Commerce.....	25	80	80	25
Crystal City.....	22	17	17	80
Curryville.....	10	25	50	50
Edina.....	10	15	5	12
Greenfield.....	50	30	40	35
Holden.....		35	25	40
Hannibal.....	10	27	17	40
Joplin.....	37	22	15	27
Kirkeville.....	25	20	25	88
Kansas City.....	100*	100*	23	38
Lexington.....	15	37	37	42
Macon City.....	21	15	15	85
Milan.....	16	10	80	85
Mine LaMotte.....		25	16	28
Moberly.....	25	30	16	21
Palmyra.....	38	35	33	33
Pilot Knob.....	16	13	18	20
Renick.....	12	25	25	25
Richmond.....	19	24	25	31
St. Joseph.....	15	10	16	24
St. Louis.....	16	14	16	21
Sikeston.....	20	10	50	55
Trenton.....	29	12	27	41

\* Advance.

The appended table is taken from the report compiled by the Department of State at Washington, in 1878, giving the retail prices of the necessaries of life in the several countries of Europe, and comparing them with New York and Chicago. St. Louis is added and a list of prices ruling that year were kindly furnished by Wm. O. Gibson, Grocer, St. Louis, James Quinlan, Butcher, St. Louis, and James Barnidge, Coal dealer, St. Louis :

TABLE V.

Statement showing the retail prices of the necessities of life in the several countries, compiled from consular reports, and compared with prices in New York, Chicago and St. Louis.

Articles.	United States.									
	United Kingdom.					United States.				
	England.	Ireland.	Scotland.	New York.	Chicago.	St. Louis.	Cents.	Cents.	Cents.	Cents.
Bread, per lb.....	4 to 5	3 to 7	6	7½	4	4	4 to 4½	4 to 4½	4 to 5	4 to 5
Flour, per lb.....	4	5½	10	7	4	4	8 to 4	2½ to 4	4 to 5	4 to 5
Beef, roasted, per lb.....	22	22	30	41	4	4	12 to 16	8 to 12½	6 to 10	6 to 10
Beef, soup, per lb.....	16	16	18	15	...	16	6 to 8	5 to 8	4 to 5	4 to 5
Beef, rump steak, per lb.....	20	20	20	18	26½	26½	14 to 16	8 to 12½	6 to 8	6 to 8
Beef, corned, per lb.....	16	16	13	12	18	18	8 to 12	4 to 7	4 to 6	4 to 6
Veal, forequarter, per lb.....	18	16	16	15	25	18	8 to 10	6 to 10	6 to 9	6 to 9
Veal, hindquarter, per lb.....	18	20	14	20	25	22½	25	10 to 12	10 to 12	9 to 12
Veal, cutlets, per lb.....	20	22	22	20	27	30	20 to 24	12½ to 15	12½ to 15	12½ to 15
Mutton, forequarter, per lb.....	16	16	15	15	17	16	9 to 10	5 to 10	4½ to 6	4½ to 6
Mutton, hindquarter, per lb.....	20	18	18	14	18	22	20	12 to 14	5 to 15½	5 to 6
Mutton, chops, per lb.....	20	20	20	20	25	24	18 to 20	14 to 16	10 to 16	12½ to 16
Pork, fresh, per lb.....	16	14	17	18	24	18	10 to 12	8 to 10	4 to 5	6 to 6
Pork, salted, per lb.....	16	14	17	18	20	16	10 to 12	8 to 10	6 to 12	7 to 8
Pork, bacon, per lb.....	18	20	22	22	12 to 16	18 to 16	8 to 10	7 to 12	10 to 12	10 to 12
Pork, ham, per lb.....	25	25	22	25	45	28	18 to 23	25	7 to 12	9 to 12
Pork shoulder, per lb.....	20	18	20	20	20	20	12	8 to 10	4 to 12	6 to 10
Pork, sausage, per lb.....	20	16	19	20	22	21	18	8 to 10	6 to 10	6 to 8
Lard, per lb.....	20	20	21	21	15 to 18	12	12	10 to 12	8 to 12	8 to 12
Godfowl, per lb.....			9	10	8	6	6 to 7	6 to 9	7 to 8	7 to 8
Butter, per lb.....	20 to 60	25	22	28	45	36	29 to 38	26½	16 to 40	16 to 80





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**PART III.**

**R E N T S.**

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# RENTS.

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The following table shows the number of persons in each family, and the number of rooms occupied; yearly rent; number of rooms in each house, and number of families in each; also the year's earnings of the head of the family, and per cent. of wages paid for rent for year:

TABLE VI.—RENTS.

No. of blank.	Residence.	No. in family.	Do you occupy a whole house.	No. of rooms occupied.	Yearly rent.	No. of rooms in house.	No. of families in house.	Earnings of head of family per year.	Per cent. of earnings paid for rent.
506	St. Louis.	7	No.	2	\$96 00	5	3	\$815 00	30
294	"	3	"	2	84 00	2	2	250 00	33
47	"	5	"	2	84 00	4	4	500 00	16
274	"	5	"	2	72 00	6	2	450 00	16
1,771	"	4	"	2	96 00	4	2	406 00	25
599	"	6	"	2	72 00	22	8	330 00	23
804	"	6	"	3	120 00	6	2	500 00	23
1,041	"	4	"	2	84 00	6	3	469 00	16
326	"	5	"	3	72 00	5	2	504 00	14
521	"	7	Yes.	4	108 00	4	1	580 00	18
309	"	4	No.	2	84 00	4	2	420 00	20
335	"	3	"	2	96 00	12	6	400 00	24
1,495	"	6	"	4	96 00	8	2	543 00	32
290	"	4	"	2	60 00	5	2	500 00	12
337	"	2	"	1	52 00	5	2	400 00	13
329	"	6	"	2	96 00	8	2	498 00	19
289	"	5	"	2	96 00	28	12	450 00	21
1,835	"	4	"	2	72 00	8	4	260 00	32
1,834	"	2	"	2	60 00	8	4	310 00	19
1,582	"	6	"	3	138 00	6	2	676 00	20
1,623	"	8	"	2	78 00	16	7	250 00	31
1,823	"	7	"	2	72 00	6	4	850 00	21
1,834	"	3	"	2	78 00	8	3	276 00	18
1,604	"	4	"	1	54 00	4	2	500 00	10
1,583	"	5	"	3	108 00	6	2	500 00	21

TABLE VI.—RENTS—Continued.

No. of blank.	Residence.	No. in family.	Do you occupy a whole house.	No. of rooms occupied.	Yearly rent.	No. of rooms in house.	No. of families in house.	Earnings of head of family per year.	Per cent. of earnings paid for rent.
1,811	St. Louis.	5	No.	8	\$78 00	12	4	\$250 00	32
1,587	"	7	"	3	132 00	12	4	473 00	28
1,829	"	5	"	2	72 00	8	4	260 60	27
929	"	6	"	2	84 00	11	4	400 00	21
1,826	"	6	"	2	72 00	8	4	400 00	18
1,584	"	5	"	3	84 00	6	4	612 00	13
1,802	"	7	"	4	144 00	86	15	520 00	27
1,806	"	4	"	2	84 00	6	4	227 00	37
1,828	"	6	"	2	96 00	8	4	400 00	30
1,821	"	4	"	3	120 00	12	4	400 00	30
1,596	"	4	"	3	72 00	5	3	539 00	13
1,709	"	6	"	8	54 00	4	3	500 00	10
1,573	"	5	"	2	84 00	6	4	260 00	34
29	"	5	"	3	96 00	12	4	375 00	25
1,047	"	4	"	2	96 00	14	4	350 00	27
1,045	"	6	Yes.	3	120 00	3	1	416 00	26
1,046	"	4	No.	3	144 00	3	3	550 00	34
1,048	"	6	"	3	120 00	11	4	345 00	23
656	"	4	"	2	78 00	4	2	340 00	24
1,064	"	4	"	8	84 00	8	4	350 00	18
433	"	2	"	1	72 00	10	2	458 00	13
436	"	5	"	2	60 00	8	4	416 00	18
430	"	4	"	2	96 00	10	4	400 00	14
51	"	5	Yes.	6	216 00	6	1	1,190 00	31
1,000	"	2	No.	2	72 00	12	4	495 00	28
199	"	8	"	2	108 00	6	2	840 00	12
507	"	3	"	2	96 00	12	6	888 00	16
559	"	6	"	2	72 00	8	4	624 00	30
551	"	2	"	2	96 00	4	2	240 00	76
589	"	4	"	3	72 00	12	4	148 00	26
537	"	4	"	4	120 00	10	4	280 00	12
447	"	2	"	2	72 00	8	4	624 00	23
350	"	3	"	2	72 00	8	4	432 00	41
459	"	2	"	2	102 00	4	2	260 00	20
86	"	3	"	8	108 00	6	6	500 00	18
558	"	4	"	3	104 00	6	6	480 00	20
357	"	3	"	2	90 00	6	3	380 00	7
356	"	6	"	8	96 00	10	4	470 00	12
508	"	9	Yes.	4	36 00	4	1	556 00	19
561	"	8	No.	2	66 00	6	4	425 00	26
562	"	3	"	3	114 00	10	4	528 00	23
576	"	3	Yes.	3	120 00	8	3	384 00	26
583	"	8	No.	5	102 00	7	2	702 00	33
1,314	"	4	"	2	168 00	7	2	400 00	18
512	"	2	Yes.	2	84 00	2	1	421 00	13
157	"	7	No.	2	78 00	4	2	534 00	13
165	"	6	Yes.	3	182 00	3	2	875 00	14
275	"	5	No.	3	72 00	6	4	500 00	18
1,830	"	4	"	2	66 00	24	18	460 00	18
928	"	5	"	2	72 00	6	4	460 00	18
543	"	4	"	2	84 00	8	2	460 00	18
541	"	6	"	2	72 00	4	2	460 00	18

TABLE VI.—RENTS.—Continued.

No. of blank.	Residence.	No. in family.	Do you occupy a whole house.	No. of rooms occupied.	Yearly rent.	No. of rooms in house.	No. of families in house.	Earnings of head of family per year.	Percent. of earnings paid for rent.
466	St. Louis.....	6	No.	2	\$90 00	4	2	\$336 00	26
451	"	2	Yes.	2	72 00	2	1	707 00	10
301	"	3	No.	1	60 00	12	6	306 00	23
457	"	6	"	2	108 00	4	3	389 00	31
565	"	3	"	2	54 00	7	3	875 00	14
1,628	"	5	"	2	72 00	4	3	384 00	18
281	"	2	"	3	182 00	12	4	780 00	17
261	"	5	"	3	90 00	12	6	650 00	13
464	"	5	"	3	96 00	9	3	602 00	15
448	"	2	"	2	72 00	8	4	800 00	24
1,818	"	7	"	3	72 00	12	4	418 00	17
474	"	6	"	2	108 00	12	4	569 00	19
1,816	"	2	"	3	102 00	10	3	534 00	19
469	"	3	"	3	96 00	9	2	484 00	19
454	"	4	"	3	120 00	12	4	814 00	14
24	"	8	"	2	66 00	4	2	459 00	14
1,806	"	8	"	2	84 00	4	2	421 00	19
1,629	"	4	"	2	60 00	4	2	416 00	14
1,609	"	4	"	2	90 00	8	4	494 00	18
1,608	"	6	"	2	84 00	8	4	421 00	20
57	"	4	"	2	60 00	8	4	520 00	11
1,614	"	3	"	3	96 00	6	2	720 00	13
168	"	2	"	3	96 00	6	2	845 00	28
313	"	2	"	1	80 00	8	6	250 00	12
296	"	6	"	3	102 00	6	2	890 00	26
311	"	5	"	2	90 00	4	2	468 00	19
98	"	8	"	3	108 00	6	2	480 00	22
26	"	4	Yes.	7	182 00	7	1	780 00	17
106	"	4	No.	2	78 00	8	3	727 00	11
59	"	7	"	7	156 00	10	2	280 00	68
61	"	4	Yes.	2	54 00	2	1	370 00	15
1,478	St. Joseph....	6	No.	2	60 00	4	2	260 00	23
376	"	2	"	2	48 00	6	3	288 00	17
1,841	"	4	"	3	78 00	9	8	345 00	22
875	"	4	Yes.	5	120 00	5	1	416 00	28
1,481	"	7	"	6	180 00	6	1	1,092 00	16
1,542	"	2	"	120 00	.....	.....	1	988 00	12
876	"	5	No.	3	125 00	6	2	550 00	23
1,669	"	7	Yes.	3	72 00	8	1	887 00	21
1,477	"	3	"	3	182 00	3	1	605 00	22
1,478	"	3	"	3	108 00	3	1	295 00	37
1,471	"	3	No.	2	60 00	4	2	800 00	20
371	"	2	"	2	60 00	5	8	230 00	26
1,339	"	4	Yes.	4	144 00	4	1	265 00	58.
22	"	5	"	2	96 00	2	1	400 00	24
601	Moberly.....	2	"	2	60 00	2	1	800 00	20
1,882	"	4	"	2	48 00	2	1	207 00	22
1,142	"	2	"	3	120 00	3	1	504 00	28
20	"	2	"	2	72 00	2	1	825 00	22
1,198	"	6	"	5	150 00	5	1	1,560 00	9
1,140	"	4	"	4	108 00	4	1	550 00	19
875	"	4	"	3	72 00	3	1	536 00	18
991	"	3	"	4	120 00	4	1	642 00	18
660	"	7	"	4	84 00	4	1	484 00	17

TABLE VI.—RENTS.—Continued.

No. of blank.	Residence.	No. in family.	Do you occupy a whole house.	No. of rooms occupied.	Yearly rent.	No. of rooms in house.	No. of families in house.	Earnings of head of family per year.	Per cent. of earnings paid for rent.
495	Moberly.....	5	Yes.	4	\$108 00	5	1	\$700 00	15
612	"	2	"	3	84 00	3	1	350 00	24
610	"	8	"	3	96 00	8	1	468 00	20
868	Kansas City...	2	"	8	120 00	3	1	420 00	25
877	"	6	"	3	120 00	3	1	500 00	23
219	"	5	No.	2	72 00	5	2	400 00	18
204	"	2	Yes.	4	120 00	4	1	676 00	17
229	"	6	"	5	192 00	5	1	300 00	64
365	"	10	"	2	120 00	2	1	421 00	28
226	"	6	"	3	180 00	8	1	216 00	83
622	"	9	"	3	96 00	8	1	410 00	23
1,793	"	3	"	4	180 00	4	1	689 00	26
1,765	"	5	"	5	360 00	5	1	1,360 00	26
1,757	"	2	No.	3	144 00	6	2	688 00	20
605	"	6	Yes.	8	120 00	3	1	550 00	21
604	"	5	"	5	216 00	5	1	500 00	43
1,194	"	4	"	6	270 00	6	1	996 00	27
1,190	Hannibal.....	5	"	3	120 00	3	1	705 00	17
14	"	7	"	6	216 00	6	1	630 00	84
810	"	4	"	4	96 00	4	1	575 00	20
1,195	"	3	"	3	108 00	8	1	647 00	16
18	"	4	"	5	120 00	5	1	580 00	20
1,196	"	4	"	4	96 00	4	1	488 00	19
1,186	"	7	"	3	60 00	3	1	275 00	21
1,726	"	7	"	2	72 00	2	1	320 00	22
1,641	Richmond....	7	"	3	72 00	3	1	616 00	11
1,710	"	8	"	4	102 00	3	1	520 00	19
620	"	6	"	5	144 00	5	1	820 00	45
1,881	Richmond.....	4	No.	2	42 00	4	2	350 00	12
444	"	5	Yes.	1	86 00	1	1	468 00	7
676	"	4	"	4	102 00	4	1	361 00	23
282	Renick.....	5	"	3	72 00	3	1	275 00	26
672	"	6	"	4	84 00	4	1	506 00	16
1,367	West Plains...	8	"	5	72 00	5	1	850 00	20
1,369	"	8	"	3	48 00	8	1	700 00	7
848	Lexington.....	8	"	8	182 00	8	1	900 00	14
884	"	2	"	4	120 00	4	1	370 00	82
862	"	8	"	4	84 00	4	1	860 00	9
864	"	4	"	4	102 00	4	1	975 00	10
1,257	Osage.....	9	"	6	30 00	6	1	1,485 00	4
1,377	Warrensburg.	4	"	5	98 00	5	1	500 00	19
1,335	Kingston.....	5	"	4	60 00	4	1	500 00	12
282	Hamilton.....	5	"	8	72 00	3	1	616 00	11
1,314	Milan.....	4	"	8	60 00	3	1	409 00	14
1,273	Sikeston....	4	"	2	72 00	2	1	400 00	18
238	St. Peters.....	6	No.	2	48 00	5	2	280 00	18
106	"	2	"	2	42 00	6	3	288 00	14
1,593	Paris.....	2	"	1	24 00	8	2	550 00	4
1,462	Elliott.....	2	Yes.	3	72 00	3	1	800 00	24
662	Camden.....	2	"	3	60 00	3	1	250 00	24
817	"	2	"	3	72 00	3	1	250 00	23
1,642	Fulton.....	3	No.	2	48 00	6	2	508 00	9
1,712	Trenton.....	10	Yes.	3	120 00	3	1	800 00	40
1,450	Shafton.....	8	No.	2	42 00	4	2	340 00	12
1,711	Fulton.....	2	Yes.	3	72 00	8	1	200 00	36

TABLE IV.—RENTS.—Continued.

No. of blank.	Residence.	No. in family.	Do you occupy a whole house.	No. of rooms occupied.	Yearly rent.	No. of rooms in house.	No. of families in house.	Earnings of head of family per year.	Per cent. of earnings paid for rent
667	Huntsville.....	2	"	3	\$60 00	8	1	\$342 00	17
1,184	Bevier.....	4	"	4	60 00	4	1	150 00	40
1,725	Richmond.....	4	"	1	36 00	1	1	200 00	18
1,723	Trenton.....	6	"	5	108 00	5	1	388 00	28
316	Henry.....	7	"	1	30 00	1	1	200 00	15
4	Camden.....	4	No.	3	60 00	6	2	205 00	29
1,719	Curryville.....	4	Yes.	2	48 00	2	1	150 00	32
1,633	Paris.....	7	"	5	120 00	5	1	780 00	15
1,409	Buffalo.....	6	"	8	86 00	3	1	275 00	18
1,300	Greencastle....	5	"	3	84 00	8	1	806 00	27
907	Annapolis.....	2	No.	2	60 00	8	4	420 00	14
741	Carondelet.....	2	"	2	96 00	12	5	620 00	15
1,799	"	4	"	3	72 00	12	4	500 00	14
20	Springfield.....	8	Yes.	6	120 00	6	1	780 00	15
1,786	Bowl'g Green	5	"	2	72 00	2	1	500 00	14
1,116	Etna....	6	"	3	86 00	3	1	108 00	33
1,769	Paris.....	10	"	6	120 00	6	1	250 00	48
122	Trenton.....	3	"	5	150 00	5	1	1,140 00	14
393	"	5	"	7	144 00	7	1	1,400 00	8
983	Frederickt'wn	4	"	5	84 00	5	1	780 00	11
33	Hermann.....	8	No.	2	36 00	5	2	510 00	7
35	St. Peters.....	3	Yes.	2	60 00	2	1	300 00	20
826	Holden.....	3	"	2	96 00	2	1	300 00	32

Number of returns tabulated.....	209
Number of rooms in 209 houses.....	1,280
Number of families in 209 houses.....	495
Number of rooms to each family, average.....	2.58
Number of rooms occupied by 209 families.....	609
Number of rooms occupied by each family, average.....	2.91
Amount of rent paid for year by 209 families.....	\$19,581 00
Earnings of 209 families for year.....	100,118 00
Per cent. of earnings paid for rent.....	19

The following tables are designed to show the amount left for the support of each member in the family, per week, after deducting the rent:

TABLE VII.—ST. LOUIS.

Number of blank.	Number in family.	Income per year.	Rent per year.	Income, excluding rent.	Income per capita per week.
.....	9	\$470 00	\$36 00	\$434 00	\$92
.....	8	250 00	78 00	172 00	41
.....	8	340 00	108 00	234 00	56
.....	8	884 00	102 00	282 00	68
.....	8	480 00	108 00	872 00	89
.....	7	315 00	96 00	219 00	60
.....	7	580 00	108 00	472 00	1 40
.....	7	380 00	72 00	278 00	77
.....	7	478 00	132 00	341 00	94
.....	7	520 00	144 00	376 00	1 02
.....	7	421 00	78 00	343 00	94
.....	7	413 00	72 00	341 00	94
.....	7	230 00	156 00	74 00	21

Number of returns tabulated.....	13
Number of persons in 13 families.....	97
Total income for year for 13 families .....	\$5,256 00
Total amount paid for rent for year.....	1,290 00
Total income, excluding rent, for year.....	3,966 00
Total number of rooms occupied by 13 families.....	40
Average rent paid per family per month.....	\$8 26
Average number of persons in each family .....	7 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>
Average income per capita per week.....	\$ 78*

TABLE VIII.—ST. LOUIS.

Number of return.	Number in family.	Income per year.	Rent per year.	Income, excluding rent.	Income per capita per week.
304	6	\$500 00	\$120 00	\$880 00	\$1 22
1,495	6	548 00	96 00	474 00	1 44
329	6	498 00	96 00	402 00	1 23
1,882	6	676 00	138 00	538 00	1 72
929	6	400 00	84 00	316 60	1 01
1,826	6	400 00	72 00	328 00	1 05
1,828	6	400 00	96 00	304 00	98
1,709	6	500 00	54 00	446 00	1 43
1,045	6	416 00	120 00	296 00	95
1,048	6	345 00	120 00	225 00	72
559	6	629 00	72 00	557 00	1 77
356	6	360 00	96 00	244 00	85
165	6	1,000 00	183 00	868 00	2 79
541	6	460 00	72 00	388 00	1 24
466	6	836 00	90 00	246 00	79
457	6	829 00	108 00	231 00	74
474	6	569 00	108 00	461 00	1 48
1,608	6	421 00	84 00	337 00	1 08
296	6	390 00	102 00	288 00	93

Number of returns tabulated.....	19
Number of persons in families.....	114
Total income for year for nineteen families.....	\$9,182 00
Total amount paid for rent for year.....	1,860 00
Total income, excluding rent, for year.....	7,322 00
Income per capita per week.....	1 23

Of the nineteen families tabulated above, ten occupy two rooms each; seven occupy three rooms each, and one occupies four rooms, while two occupy each a house with three rooms. Of the houses occupied by the nineteen families, one contains twelve rooms, with four families, and two houses, with eleven rooms each are occupied by eight families. One house contains ten rooms, with three families, and four houses, with thirty-two rooms, are occupied by sixteen families, while two houses, with sixteen rooms, are occupied by four families; three houses with six rooms each, contain six families, and three houses, with twelve rooms, are occupied by six families, while one house, with four rooms, has a family in each room.

TABLE IX.—ST. LOUIS.

Number of return.	Number in family.	Income per year.	Rent per year.	Income, exclud- ing rent.	Income per capita per week..
47	5	\$500 00	\$84 00	\$416 00	\$1 60
274	5	450 00	72 00	378 00	1 45
1,771	5	406 00	96 00	310 00	1 20
326	5	504 00	72 00	432 00	1 66
289	5	450 00	96 00	354 00	1 86
1,583	5	500 00	108 00	392 00	1 51
1,811	5	250 00	78 00	172 00	66
1,829	5	260 00	72 00	118 00	72
1,584	5	612 00	84 00	528 00	2 03
1,573	5	260 00	84 00	176 00	68
29	5	875 00	96 00	279 00	1 07
436	5	458 00	60 00	398 00	1 53
51	5	1,190 00	216 00	974 00	3 75
275	5	534 00	72 00	462 00	1 78
928	5	500 00	72 00	428 00	1 65
1,628	5	884 00	72 00	312 00	1 20
464	5	602 00	96 00	506 00	1 95
311	5	468 00	90 00	378 00	1 45

Number of returns tabulated.....	18
Number of persons in eighteen families.....	90
Total income for year for nineteen families.....	\$8,708 00
Total amount paid for rent for year.....	1,620 00
Total income, excluding rent, for year.....	7,088 00
Income per capita per week.....	1 51

Seventeen of the above families occupy forty-one rooms; while one family occupies a whole house with six rooms, or, in other words, ten families occupy two rooms each, while seven occupy three rooms each. The houses occupied by the eighteen families contain one hundred and forty-six rooms with sixty families. Of these houses, one with twenty-eight rooms contains twelve families; two with twelve rooms each, eight families, while one with nine rooms has three families. Three houses with eight rooms each are occupied by twelve, and eight with six rooms each are occupied by eighteen families, while four families occupy two houses with four rooms in each.

TABLE X.—ST. LOUIS.

Number of return.	Number in family.	Income per year.	Rent per year.	Income, excluding rent.	Income per capita per week.
599	4	\$330 00	\$72 00	\$258 00	\$1 24
1,041	4	469 00	84 00	385 00	1 86
309	4	420 00	84 00	336 00	1 62
290	4	500 00	60 00	440 00	2 11
1,835	4	260 00	72 00	188 00	.90
1,604	4	500 00	54 00	446 00	2 18
1,806	3	227 00	84 00	143 00	.69
1,821	4	400 00	120 00	280 00	1 34
1,596	4	539 00	72 00	467 00	2 24
1,047	4	350 00	96 00	254 00	1 22
1,046	4	650 00	144 00	406 00	1 95
656	4	840 00	78 00	262 00	1 25
1,064	4	350 00	84 00	266 00	.86
430	4	416 00	96 00	320 00	1 54
529	4	240 00	72 00	168 00	.83
537	4	148 00	120 00	28 00	.13
558	4	500 00	104 00	396 00	1 90
1,814	4	702 00	168 00	534 00	2 57
1,880	4	375 00	66 00	309 00	1 49
543	4	460 00	84 00	376 00	1 81
454	4	814 00	120 00	694 00	3 34
1,629	4	416 00	60 00	356 00	1 71
1,609	4	494 00	90 00	404 00	1 94
57	4	520 00	60 00	460 00	2 21
25	4	780 00	132 00	648 00	3 12
166	4	727 00	78 00	649 00	3 16
61	4	870 00	54 00	316 00	1 52

Number of returns tabulated.....	27
Number of persons in 27 families.....	108
Total income for year for 27 families.....	\$12,177 00
Total amount paid for rent for year.....	2,400 00
Total income, excluding rent, for year.....	9,777 00
Income per capita per week.....	1 74

Of the twenty-seven families tabulated one occupies one room, sixteen two rooms each, and seven families occupy twenty-one rooms, while the other three each occupy a whole house. Of the houses occupied by the twenty-seven families, one contains twenty-four rooms with eighteen families, one with twenty-two rooms has eight, and one with fourteen rooms, four families. Three houses with twelve rooms each are occupied by twelve families, and two houses with ten rooms each are occupied by seven families, seven houses with fifty-six rooms have twenty-seven families, and two houses with seven rooms each are occupied by three families.. Again, three houses with eighteen rooms have nine families, and four houses with sixteen rooms are occupied by six families. The other three each occupy a house containing re-

spectively two, three and seven rooms, making a total of ninety-seven families living in twenty-seven houses and occupying two hundred and twenty-five rooms.

TABLE XI.—ST. LOUIS.

Number of return.	Number in family.	Income per year.	Rent per year.	Income, excluding rent.	Income per capita per week.
294	3	\$250 00	\$84 00	\$166 00	\$1 07
335	8	400 00	96 00	304 00	1 95
1,334	8	276 00	78 00	198 00	1 27
507	8	388 00	96 00	242 00	1 55
850	8	624 00	72 00	552 00	8 54
86	3	260 00	108 00	152 00	98
857	3	480 00	90 00	390 00	2 50
561	8	558 00	68 00	490 00	8 14
562	8	425 00	114 00	311 00	2 00
576	3	528 00	120 00	408 00	2 62
301	3	308 00	60 00	246 00	1 58
565	3	375 00	54 00	321 00	2 06
261	8	650 00	98 00	560 00	8 59
460	8	480 00	96 00	388 00	2 80
24	8	459 00	88 00	393 00	2 52
1,606	8	421 00	84 00	337 00	2 16
1,614	3	720 00	96 00	624 00	4 00

Number of returns tabulated.....	17
Number of persons in 17 families.....	51
Total income per year for 17 families.....	\$7,554 00
Total amount paid for rent for year.....	1,470 00
Total income, excluding rent, for year.....	6,084 00
Income per capita per week.....	2 29

Sixteen families in the above table occupy thirty-five rooms in sixteen houses containing 124 rooms, and the other family has a whole house with three rooms. One family has one room, eleven two rooms, and five three rooms each. The others are distributed as follows:

4 houses with 12 rooms each contains 24 families.

1 house with 10 rooms contains 4 families.

1 house with 9 rooms contains 2 families.

1 house with 8 rooms contains 4 families.

1 house with 7 rooms contains 3 families.

5 houses with 6 rooms each contains 13 families.

3 houses with 4 rooms each contains 6 families.

1 house with 3 rooms contains 1 family.

Making a total of 57 families in 17 houses and occupying 127 rooms.

TABLE XII.—ST. LOUIS.

Number of return.	Number in family	Income per year.	Rent per year.	Income, excluding rent.	Income per capita per week.
337	2	\$400 00	\$52 00	\$384 00	\$3 25
1,824	2	310 00	60 00	250 00	2 40
433	2	400 00	72 00	328 00	3 15
1,000	2	495 00	72 00	423 00	4 07
551	2	624 00	96 00	264 00	5 08
447	2	280 00	72 00	208 00	2 00
459	2	432 00	102 00	330 00	3 19
512	2	400 00	84 00	316 00	3 04
451	2	707 00	72 00	635 00	6 11
281	2	780 00	132 00	604 00	6 28
448	2	300 00	72 00	288 00	2 21
1,816	2	534 00	102 00	432 00	4 15
163	2	845 00	96 00	249 00	2 40
813	2	250 00	80 00	220 00	2 12

Number of returns tabulated.....	14
Number of persons in fourteen families.....	28
Total income for year for fourteen families.....	\$6,257 00
Total amount paid for rent for year.....	1,114 00
Total income, excluding rent, for year.....	5,143 00
Income per capita per week.....	8 53

Of the above fourteen families, only two occupy a whole house, each containing two rooms, while three have three rooms, six two rooms, and three one room each. Of the houses occupied by the fourteen families, two with twenty-four rooms contain eight families; two with twenty rooms five families, and four with thirty-two rooms are occupied by eighteen families; one house with six, and one with five rooms, contain four families, while two houses with eight rooms, and two with four rooms are occupied by six families, making a total of forty-one families in fourteen houses containing ninety-nine rooms.

## TOTALS AND AVERAGES.

Total number of returns tabulated.....	108
Total number of persons in one hundred and eight families.....	488
Total income for year for one hundred and eight families.....	\$49,129 00
Total amount paid for rent for year.....	9,754 00
Total income, excluding rent, for year.....	39,375 00
Total rooms occupied by one hundred and eight families.....	266
Average rent paid per family per month.....	\$7 52
Average number of persons to each family.....	4 1
Average income per capita per week.....	\$1 55

TABLE XIII.—ST. JOSEPH.

Number of return.	Number in family.	Income per year.	Rent per year.	Income, excluding rent.	Income per capita per week.
1,481	7	\$1,092 00	\$180 00	\$912 00	\$2 51
1,696	7	837 00	72 00	265 00	73
1,473	6	260 00	60 00	200 00	64
876	5	550 00	125 00	425 00	1 64
22	5	400 00	96 00	304 00	1 17
1,841	4	845 00	78 00	267 00	1 29
875	4	416 00	120 00	296 00	1 42
1,839	4	265 00	144 00	121 00	58
1,477	3	605 00	132 00	478 00	8 03
1,478	8	295 00	108 00	187 00	1 20
1,471	8	300 00	60 00	240 00	1 54
876	2	288 00	48 00	240 00	2 31
1,542	2	988 00	120 00	868 00	8 68
371	2	230 00	60 00	170 00	1 64

Total number of returns tabulated.....	14
Total number of persons in fourteen families.....	57
Total income for year for fourteen families.....	\$6,371 00
Total amount paid for rent for year.....	1,403 00
Total income, excluding rent, for year.....	4,968 00
Total number of rooms occupied by fourteen families.....	44
Average rent paid per month per family.....	\$8 35
Average number of persons to each family.....	3 1-7
Average income per capita per week.....	\$1 67

Of the fourteen families tabulated, eight occupy a whole house each, one lives in a house containing nine rooms, with three families, while the balance occupy fourteen out of twenty-five rooms, in five houses inhabited by twelve families. Of those occupying a whole house, four families have three rooms each, the balance two, four, five and six rooms respectively.

TABLE XIV.—MOBERLY.

Number of return.	Number in family.	Income per year.	Rent per year.	Income, excluding rent.	Income per capita per week.
660	7	\$484 00	\$84 00	\$400 00	\$1 10
1,198	8	1,560 00	150 00	1,410 00	4 52
495	5	700 00	108 00	592 00	2 28
875	4	576 00	72 00	504 00	2 42
1,140	4	550 00	108 00	442 00	2 12
1,882	4	207 00	48 00	169 00	77
610	3	468 00	96 00	372 00	2 89
991	8	642 00	120 00	522 00	8 85
20	2	325 00	72 00	253 00	2 43
601	2	300 00	60 00	240 00	2 31
612	2	350 00	84 00	266 00	2 56
1,142	2	504 00	120 00	384 00	8 69

## TOTALS AND AVERAGES.

Total number of returns tabulated.....	12
Total number of persons in twelve families.....	44
Total income for year for twelve families.....	\$6,668 00
Total amount paid for rent for year.....	1,122 00
Total income, excluding rent, for year.....	5,544 00
Total number of rooms occupied by twelve families.....	39
Average rent paid per month per family.....	\$7 79
Average number of persons to each family.....	83
Average income per capita per week.....	\$2 46+

All the above families occupy an entire house each, as follows: Two families, five rooms; three families, four rooms; four families, three rooms, and three, two rooms each.

The difference of the average per capita income between Moberly, St. Joseph and St. Louis, is accounted for by the fact that the returns were nearly all from skilled mechanics in the employ of railroad companies.

TABLE XV.—KANSAS CITY.

Number of return.	Number in family.	Income per year.	Rent per year.	Income, excluding rent.	Income per capita per week.
365	10	\$421 00	\$120 00	\$801 00	\$ 58
622	9	410 00	96 00	314 00	67
226	6	216 00	180 00	86	12
229	6	300 00	192 00	108 00	35
877	6	500 00	120 00	380 00	1 22
605	6	550 00	120 00	430 00	1 38
219	5	400 00	72 00	328 00	1 26
644	5	500 00	216 00	284 00	1 09
1,765	5	1,360 00	360 00	1,000 00	8 85
1,194	4	996 00	270 00	726 00	8 50
1,793	8	689 00	180 00	509 00	3 26
204	2	676 00	120 00	556 00	5 85
868	2	480 00	120 00	360 00	8 46
1,757	2	688 00	144 00	544 00	5 23

## TOTALS AND AVERAGES.

Total number of returns tabulated.....	14
Total number of persons in fourteen families.....	71
Total income for year for fourteen families.....	\$8,186 00
Total amount paid for rent for year.....	2,310 00
Total income, excluding rent, for year.....	5,876 00
Total number of rooms occupied by fourteen families.....	51
Average rent paid per month per family.....	\$18 70
Average number of persons to each family.....	5
Average income per capita per week.....	\$1 40

All of the above families, except two, occupy an entire house each; the two others live in houses occupied by one family besides themselves.

TABLE XVI.—HANNIBAL.

Number of Return.	Number in family.	Income per year.	Rent per year.	Income, excluding rent.	Income per capita per week.
14	7	\$680 00	\$216 00	\$414 00	\$1 14
1,186	7	275 00	60 00	215 00	59
1,726	7	320 00	72 00	248 00	68
1,190	5	705 00	120 00	585 00	2 25
18	4	580 00	120 00	460 00	2 21
810	4	575 00	96 00	479 00	2 80
1,196	4	483 00	96 00	387 00	1 86
1,195	8	647 00	108 00	539 00	8 45

## TOTALS AND AVERAGES.

Total number of returns tabulated.....	8
Total number of persons in eight families.....	41
Total income for year for eight families .....	\$4,215 00
Total amount paid for rent for year.....	888 00
Total income, excluding rent, for year .....	3,327 00
Total number of rooms occupied by eight families.....	30
Average rent paid per month per family.....	\$9 25
Average number of persons to each family.....	5†
Average income per capita per week .....	\$1 56

For convenience, the small towns have been all grouped into one table, the rents and wages varying but very little.

TABLE XVII.—MISCELLANEOUS.

No. of return.	Residence.	No. in family.	Income per year.	Rent per year.	Income, excluding rent.	Income per capita per week.
1,710	Richmond.....	8	\$520 00	\$102 00	\$418 00	\$ 10†
1,641	" .....	7	616 00	72 00	544 00	1 49
620	" .....	6	320 00	144 00	176 00	57
444	" .....	5	468 00	36 00	422 00	1 66
676	" .....	4	861 00	102 00	259 00	1 25
1,725	" .....	4	200 00	36 00	164 00	79
1,831	" .....	4	350 00	42 00	308 00	1 48
848	Lexington.....	8	900 00	182 00	768 00	1 85
864	" .....	4	975 00	102 00	873 00	4 20
862	" .....	3	860 00	84 00	776 00	4 57
884	" .....	2	370 00	120 00	250 00	2 40
1,712	Trenton .....	3	800 00	120 00	180 00	35
1,728	" .....	5	388 00	108 00	275 00	88
398	" .....	7	1,400 00	144 00	1,256 00	4 83
122	" .....	5	1,140 00	150 00	990 00	6 85
233	St. Peters.....	6	280 00	48 00	282 00	74
35	" .....	3	800 00	60 00	240 00	1 54
106	" .....	2	288 00	42 00	246 00	2 37
1,769	Paris.....	10	250 00	120 00	130 00	25
1,633	" .....	7	780 00	120 00	660 00	1 43
1,593	" .....	2	550 00	24 00	526 00	5 06
4	Camden.....	4	205 00	60 00	145 00	70
317	" .....	2	250 00	72 00	178 00	1 71
662	" .....	2	250 00	60 00	190 00	1 90
672	Renick .....	6	506 00	84 00	422 00	1 36
282	" .....	5	275 00	72 00	203 00	78
1,199	Carondelet .....	4	500 00	72 00	428 00	2 06
741	" .....	2	620 00	96 00	524 00	5 04
1,642	Fulton.....	8	508 00	48 00	460 00	2 95
1,711	" .....	2	200 00	72 00	128 00	1 28

TABLE XVII.—MISCELLANEOUS—Continued.

No. of return.	Residence.	No. in family.	Income per year.	Rent per year.	Income, excluding rent.	Income per capita per week.
1,367	West Plains.....	8	\$850 00	\$72 00	\$278 00	\$1 78
1,369	" "	3	700 00	48 00	662 00	4 18
907	Annapolis.....	2	420 00	60 00	360 00	8 46
1,884	Bevier .....	4	150 00	60 00	90 00	43
1,786	Bowling Green.....	5	500 00	72 00	428 00	1 65
1,409	Buffalo.....	6	275 00	36 00	239 00	77
1,719	Curryville.....	4	150 00	48 00	102 00	49
1,462	Elliott .....	2	300 00	72 00	228 00	2 19
1,116	Etna.....	6	108 00	36 00	72 00	33
983	Fredericktown .....	4	780 00	84 00	696 00	8 33
1,300	Greencastle.....	5	806 00	84 00	222 00	85
282	Hamilton .....	5	616 00	72 00	544 00	2 09
316	Henry .....	7	200 00	30 00	170 00	47
33	Herman.....	3	510 00	36 00	474 00	8 04
826	Holden.....	3	800 00	96 00	204 00	1 31
1,335	Kingston .....	5	500 00	60 00	440 00	1 69
667	Huntsville.....	2	342 00	60 00	282 00	2 71
1,314	Milan .....	4	409 00	60 00	349 00	1 68
1,257	Osage.....	9	1,485 00	60 00	1,425 00	4 96
1,450	Shafton .....	3	340 00	40 00	298 00	1 91
1,273	Sikeston.....	4	400 00	72 00	328 00	1 58
26	Springfield.....	8	780 00	120 00	660 00	1 58
1,377	Warrensburg.....	4	500 00	96 00	404 00	1 94

## TOTALS AND AVERAGES.

Total number of returns tabulated .....	53
Total number of persons in fifty-three families .....	236
Total income for year for fifty-three families.....	\$25,346 00
Total amount paid for rent for year .....	4,018 00
Total income, excluding rent, for year .....	21,328 00
Total number of rooms occupied by fifty-three families.....	178
Average rent paid per month per family.....	\$6 82
Average number of persons to each family.....	41
Average income per capita per week.....	\$1 73

TABLE XVIII.—TOTALS AND AVERAGES.

Locality.	No. of returns tabulated	No. of persons in family.	Income per year.	Rent paid per year.	Yearly income, excluding rent.	No. of rooms occupied.	Average rent per month per family	No. of persons in family—average.	Income per capita per week.
St. Louis.....	108	448	\$49,129 00	\$9,754 00	\$89,375 00	266	\$7 52	41	\$1 69†
St. Joseph.....	14	57	6,871 00	1,403 00	4,968 00	44	8 35	8	1 67†
Moberly.....	12	44	6,666 00	1,122 00	5,544 00	39	7 79	8	2 46†
Kansas City.....	14	71	8,186 00	2,310 00	5,876 00	51	13 70	5†	1 40†
Hannibal.....	8	41	4,215 00	888 00	3,322 00	30	9 25	5†	1 56†
Miscellaneous .....	53	240	25,546 00	4,054 00	21,492 00	1 79	6 59	43	1 72†

## GRAND TOTALS AND AVERAGES.

Total number of returns tabulated.....	209
Total number of persons in 209 families.....	901
Total income for year for 209 families.....	\$100,118 00
Total amount paid for rent for year.....	19,581 00
Total income, excluding rent, for year.....	80,582 00
Total number of rooms occupied by 209 families.....	609
Average rent paid per month per family.....	\$7 78
Average number of persons to each family—average.....	4.81
Average income per capita per week.....	\$1 72†

Under the head of "Earnings and Expenses," the Ohio Bureau of Labor presents in few, but forcible, words, the question of rent, which, like interest, is always going on whether income is coming in or not. The report referred to says: "The never ceasing tax upon labor is rent; month after month, year after year, the drain continues, in sickness as in health, when unemployed as when employed; the right to a covering, other than that of nature, is dependent on the ability to meet the monthly demand for rent."

In analyzing the foregoing tables it will be seen that nearly one-fifth the income of the returns tabulated is taken for rent. But the still more startling fact is brought to light, by further examination, that after deducting rent, the remainder will not give an average of 25 cents a day for each member in the 209 families represented in the returns—twenty-five cents a day for an American workman to feed, clothe and educate himself and children in the duties and responsibilities they have to assume when they come to exercise the rights of citizenship. In the returns made to the Bureau the following trades and occupa-

tions, among others, will be found representing altogether between forty and fifty different employments, skilled and unskilled, carried on in the various parts of the State. Nearly the entire building trade is represented, as, also, the various products of iron from the raw to the finished article; the coal, and iron, and zinc mining interests of the State are brought out, the varied branches of the glass business, the milling interests, bakeries and confectioneries, the wagon and carriage trades in all their branches, wood workers, plaining mill men, coopers, brush and broom makers, tobacco workers and cigar-makers, tailors, railroad men and others, which will be found in the tables.

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**PART IV.**

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**PECUNIARY CONDITION OF WORKINGMEN.**

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## PECUNIARY CONDITION OF WORKINGMEN.

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### CARPENTERS.

Of forty-one returns only three own any share or stock in the establishment that employs them, and none know of any case where an employe acquired a competence. In regard to wage-laborers who have kept clear of debt during the past five years, six only know of such persons, and on this point their testimony is mainly: "Those that have steady work keep out of debt." On the other hand, those who know of none, remark, "many have left badly involved." "There are many who cannot obtain steady work."

The following are extracts from returns on the above subject:

*Return No. 1517.*—"With the boom in trade this fall, groceries and provisions are rapidly advancing in price, but there is no corresponding increase in wages."

*Return No. 1630.*—"I have six in family and cannot provide a comfortable living for them."

*Return No. 28.*—"Kept a careful account of my expenses; I live in a house hardly fit for a dog, yet I cannot make both ends meet; I exercise great economy and am temperate; unless there is a change for the better I cannot see what the laboring men can do to live."

*Return No. 835.*—"For the past three years mechanics here (Kirksville) have had hard times; had to work on sidewalks, build rail fences, saw wood and so on, in order to make both ends meet."

### BRICKLAYERS.

Nineteen returns received from this trade, say they own no shares or stock, and none know of any wage-laborers who have acquired a competence out of their individual earnings. In regard to the question: "Have wage-laborers of your acquaintance kept clear of debt for the last five years?" The general answer is "no."

**PAINTERS.**

From this trade, twelve returns were received. None own any stock in the establishment where they are employed; none know of any wage-laborers who have saved a competence; the general expression is, "impossible in our trade;" and all but one give it as their opinion, that for the past five years the working men, as a rule, have not been clear of debt, and this one says, "not one in a hundred have kept clear of debt."

**STONE-CUTTERS.**

Of eleven returns, nine answer that they know of no wage-worker who acquired a competence by his own earnings; the other two state they know of a few cases where men have bought a small house and lot; one is so emphatic in his reply as to say, "none could do so unless they deprived themselves of the common necessities of life." They unanimously agree that very few of the wage-laborers have kept clear of debt for the past five years.

**PLASTERERS.**

Only one out of seventeen owns stock in the establishment that employs him; in regard to wage-laborers acquiring a competence out their individual earnings; one reports a few who, to his knowledge, have acquired a competence; but this, he informs us, is merely a house and lot. The universal testimony of the returns, with one exception, is that wage-workers could not keep clear of debt during the past five years.

The following extracts are from returns received from journeymen plasterers.

*Return No. 553—St. Louis.*—"Plasterers, as a general thing, work from four to five months in the year, and while they are working they live pretty well; but when they are out of employment they don't live at all, but just linger."

*Return No. 466—St. Louis.*—"In making my report, the receipts and expenses do not correspond; the remainder is to be paid sometime in the future. Since I came to the United States, I have not been at work sufficient to keep me clear with the world, and hence I got into debt when my earnings were not capable of supporting my family."

*Return No. 1815—St. Louis.*—"You will see there is no expense in my return for rent. I own the house I live in, and bought it four years ago with money I saved from good old war times. I owed \$300

on my place after paying \$2,000.00 on it. Times got so bad I could not pay the interest on the mortgage, so my generous creditors sold me out for six months' interest, (\$36.00). How many more were treated like me is only known to the sharks around the east end of the St. Louis court house. I have lived in St. Louis forty years."

#### BLACKSMITHS.

Fifteen returns from this trade show that only one owns stock in the firm that employs him, and one says: "I know of a few that have kept clear of debt by using the greatest economy and depriving themselves of many of the necessities of life."

#### ENGINEERS.

None have any shares in the business where they are employed, and none know of any that saved a competence. Return 198, Huntsville, says: "I have not saved a nickel. Would like to see the man that did unless he got over \$20.00 a week, and that steady for 30 years."

#### MACHINISTS.

Of the seventeen returns, none have shares in the concern that gives them employment; they unanimously agree that none of their acquaintances have saved a competence from their individual earnings. One says: "Those with families have to strive hard to make both ends meet." Another says: "Most workingmen have to live from hand to mouth."

#### STOVE FOUNDRY EMPLOYEES.

In regard to the question: "Have wage-laborers of your acquaintance kept clear of debt for the last five years?" One says: "Not by a long way." Another: "None that have lived half decent." One says: "Yes!" None are shareholders in the establishment where they are employed.

#### CARRIAGE AND WAGON MAKERS.

Of the fifteen returns received, none are shareholders and only two say they know of wage-laborers who have acquired a competence in the shape of a house and lot. One says: "It cannot be done if a man wants to live like a human being."

**CIGARMAKERS.**

Seventy-one returns from this trade show that none own any share or stock in the establishment where they are employed. In regard to competence, three say they know of such cases.(?) To the question: "Have wage-laborers of your acquaintance kept clear of debt for the last five years?" the following answers were elicited: (a.) "A few kept clear." (b.) "Yes, with a hard squeeze." (c.) "Bound to contract debts as they cannot keep clear on their small earnings." (d.) "Want of work has placed many in debt." (e.) "The wages of cigarmakers cannot be restored until eastern cigarmakers strike for higher wages." (f.) "Dont know, grocery men can tell you better." (g.) "Generally run short and get into debt." (h.) "None kept clear of debt that I know of." (i.) "Before the St. Louis strike in 1879, if it had not been for my friends, I could not have lived." (j.) "As a rule they had to keep out of debt for want of credit." (k.) "I have two girls to work, one 14, the other 20 years of age; both commenced to work in factories at the age of 12, as well as my boy. I had to send them to work in order to make a living."

**TAILORS.**

Thirteen returns from journeymen tailors agree that, as a rule, they save very little, and on this point they express themselves as follows: (a.) "I am living on starvation wages." (b.) "Kept clear of debt! No sir, unless a fellow lives like a hog." None own any stock in the firm that employs them, nor do they know of any wage-laborers who acquired a competence by their individual earnings.

**COOPERS.**

Of the sixteen returns from the above trade, only two own stock in the establishment (co-operative shop) that employs them. A few report that they know of wage-laborers that have kept clear of debt. The others say: (a.) "They all owe more or less." (b.) "They have not." (c.) "Do not know of anyone but myself."

**MILLERS.**

None own stock or shares, and all, except one, are in debt. In regard to competence, two say they know of such persons.

**FURNITUREMAKERS.**

Nine returns from this trade show that none own stock, nor do they know of any one with a competence saved from his individual earnings. To the question: "Have wage-laborers of your acquaintance kept clear of debt for the last five years?" one says: "Furniture workers are all in debt as far as they can get credit."

**HARNESSMAKERS.**

Of the 32 returns received, four say they know of wage-laborers who have acquired a competence. None own stock or shares in the concern where they are employed. In regard to wages earned by harnessmakers, one says: "The amount of wages earned by most of the hands employed at our business is barely enough to keep them and their families in decent clothing. I happen to have steady work at \$10.00 per week, but the work is very hard and disagreeable, to repair harness of all grades, 10 hours a day, and I can not rest one day without getting the amount of my wages for that day in debt."

**PRINTERS.**

None of the 19 returns received own stock or shares in the business where they are employed. In regard to keeping clear of debt, they all agree that those having steady work, in most cases kept out of debt, others did not. A few know of wage-laborers who own their own houses. *Return 565*—Pressman, St. Louis, says: "Many things most desirable and even necessary must be denied, while the amount earned is barely sufficient to procure positive necessities, and even then a short sickness causes debts and disagreeable obligations." 1342, St. Joseph, says: "Lack of employment and low wages has kept many workmen down, and unable to meet their expenses."

**TOBACCONISTS.**

None of the men are stock or shareholders and none know of any who acquired a competence and all but one, say they are in debt. One says: "How can a man in our trade keep out of debt on \$7.50 per week?"

**COAL MINERS.**

Thirty-four returns were received from miners in nearly every district in the State, and the following extracts from their returns explain themselves: *Richmond.* (a) "Out of debt! I can safely say that

there is not a man of family here that did keep out." (b) "Along with mining I rented ten acres of ground and put my idle time on it to get along." (c) "No, many have sacrificed their homes and are in debt besides." (d) "No, and never will be under our present financial and competitive system." (e) "A few, with close economy, have kept out of debt, others not." *Lexington*—(a) "Not one out of every ten is out of debt." (b) "No, they get into debt in summer for want of work and hard times to pull through." *Fulton*—"In 1872 the miners had more work; I know I could make more money then than now, and with the work we get it takes all we can do to live. I know men with large families that do not get enough to eat, and not one-half enough clothing to wear, and, as for house rent, they can hardly pay it." *Huntsville*—"I can scarcely find a workingman with a family, and especially a miner, ever out of debt, although using the closest economy, and going without many necessities of life. It is work year in and year out for a bare existence; in fact, I believe the working classes of Great Britain to-day are in better circumstances than are those of this country—at any rate they see some enjoyment with their money, which we do not here." *Camden*—(a) "Our wages gradually diminished since 1872, until we can but make a support, and that is barely all. Some miners cannot make a decent living for their families." (b) "I have been on this track for five years and have not made a cent to lay away for a rainy day. I think sometimes, that all I came here for was to wear out my old clothing. A man has to work hard for 10 hours a day, every day he can get work, to make a bare living, on "Beecher diet" at that. No luxuries for a miner, if he does he is sure to come out in debt at the end of the year. It is a shame how men have to work for a mere pittance; if a man would give himself justice here when at work, he could not make an honest living. There are men working here all ours of the day and night, and then barely get along. I always make it a rule to live within my income, and that is what kept me out of debt, but I can assure you it was very poor living sometimes. But I hope to live to see the day when will come a change in affairs—the workingmen will have power."

#### LEAD MINERS.

Of the sixty-three returns from employes in the various occupations of mining and smelting lead, only four say they know of wage-laborers who acquired a competence; none own stock or shares in the mines, and only two say they are out of debt. *Return No. 1118, Bonne Terre*, says: "One-half of the miners here are in debt to the companies now."

## RAILROAD EMPLOYES.

From this branch of labor 53 returns were received. Of course none own stock. A few know of wage-laborers who acquired a competence, that is to say, a house and lot. In regard to the question of keeping out of debt for the past five years, the following expressions will give the key-note to all their answers: (a) "If sickness or accident occurs they cannot keep out of debt." (b) "Three years ago I had six hundred dollars; through sickness and hard times I have lost it all." (c.) "By hard pinching the 'better paid men' have managed to get little homes." (d) "We cannot keep out of debt, with large families and business dull some of the men only make half-pay in winter when business is slack." (e) "I have been more fortunate than others at my trade, (R. R. machinist) a great many of them have only earned enough to purchase the necessities of life, some of them have not been able to do that, but have been compelled to depend on the charity of their more fortunate brethren or seek work elsewhere." (f) "I earn \$5.60 per week as flagman; my expenses are put down at the lowest figure—\$450.00 per year—and are far in excess, as you will see, of my income, leaving me to run into debt or depend on the charity of friends. When one has to buy 25 or 30 cents worth of coal at a time, and that through the winter when coal is at the highest, it is very little you can get for your money. If I had cash and I could get a load or two when coal is cheap in the summer, it would not cost me more than one-half what it does now. It is the same with every article a poor family has to get. Groceries and all other things I have to get, cost 25 per cent. more than if I had cash and choose my own market. For over twelve months I have been sick with chills and fever and had to keep my post when I was hardly able to stand upon my feet for want of care. I had no money and no means to live on if out of work. I often think I will lose my life for want of medical attendance. Truly, I believe that one-half of the poor die through neglect and want of proper care."

## IRON MINERS.

Twenty returns from miners show that they are no stock or shareholders in the mines where they are employed, nor in any other concern. Four say they are in debt; the balance kept even by using great economy. One miner says: "The reason some have no debts is because they can't get credit and have to live as best they can." A return from Annapolis says: "My wages at mining does not take care of me and my family, and my opinion is that if times do no change in a few years, poor people will be bound to starve and go naked, for there

are plenty of families now in my knowing that don't get one-half rations and haven't the second suit to their names, and it ain't none of their own faults—its because their wages wont support them."

#### MISCELLANEOUS EMPLOYEES.

An employe in a lead works says: "Men in my calling are continually in debt from doctors' bills and low wages (\$9.00 a week)." Another says: "A few keep out of debt with hard struggle." *Laborers*.—None know of any who have acquired a competence, and to the question of keeping out of debt, they answer with a universal "No." One wagonmaker and one boilermaker own stock each in the establishment that employs them, and as far as they know, men in their calling have kept clear of debt for the past five years. *Marble Finishers*.—St. Joseph.—"Kept clear of debt! They have not; if they followed their trade they would starve in winter, but hog killing and wood-chopping keep them alive." It is claimed there is prosperity in the country now (Oct., 1879), but let any man advertise for ten workmen and there will be a hundred to look for the job. There are hundreds of men who would be glad to work all winter for their board. The mechanics who have had to work out of doors this past summer have had to economize very closely to pull through without debt this winter." *Shoemakers*.—"The condition of the shoemakers is, I consider, deplorable. If, from any cause, they lose a little time, they at once become 'objects of charity'; many of them, too independent to let their condition be known, their families suffer. The continual effort of employers is to reduce the wages of labor, and they will use any means to do so, for instance: Con-nive with dry goods and grocery men for a division of profits, and if a tramp comes along they employ him at less wages. At any rate, wages are lower than I have ever known them to be, and as I could not support myself and family with the wages I earned, I took a desperate chance and started a little shop of my own, thereby getting, to the full extent, all profits, if there are any, of my labor, and thus am enabled to live, if it may be called a living."

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**PART V.**

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**MINING—COAL, LEAD AND IRON**

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# M I N I N G.

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## COAL MINING.

One of the greatest mineral resources possessed by the State of Missouri is her coal deposits, of which vast quantities exist in Boone, Cass, Callaway, Chariton, Carroll, Cooper, Howard, Macon, Putnam, Johnson, Lafayette, Ray and Randolph counties, while smaller deposits have been found in Barton, Henry, Saline, Bates, Vernon, Pettis, St. Clair, Montgomery and many other counties in the State. From a report on the resources of the State of Missouri, compiled by Hon. John J. O'Neill, and published in 1877, we make the following extract:

We have an area of twenty-six thousand, eight hundred and eighty-seven square miles of regular coal measures. If the average thickness of workable coal be one foot only, it will give 26,887,000,000 for the whole area occupied by coal rocks. But in many places the thickness of the workable beds is over fifteen feet; and the least estimate that can be made for the whole area is five feet. This will give 134,435,000,000 tons of good available coal in our State.

When it is taken into consideration that labor is the source of all wealth, and that the possession of wealth multiplies for its possessor a thousand fold the power and ability to obtain those things that minister to the enjoyment of life, physical and intellectual; and when it is further considered that those hidden treasures, coal, and iron, and silver, and gold, are all valueless, until the intelligence of the human mind and dexterity of the human hand brings them forth and fashions them for use, it really seems as if that had received the last consideration which should have received the first.

The minute and interesting description of coal mining, the dangers to which miners are hourly exposed in their perilous occupation, the

neglect, discouragement and imposition to which they are subjected from those whose interest would be better promoted by furnishing every facility and encouragement in carrying on their works, prepared by Thos. H. Evans, an experienced miner, render an elaborate discussion of the subject by the Bureau unnecessary. The following is Mr. Evans' contribution to the Bureau:

In looking over the mining statutes of Missouri we find them lacking in many things, not even mentioning the working miner, who risks his life and limb in descending into the mine to dig therefrom the treasures so useful and necessary to our comfort and to the carrying on of our manufacturing industries. An occupation so hazardous to life as that of a miner, it seems plain, should be protected, as far as possible, by legislation. Having to endure privation other craftsmen are not subjected to, the glorious light of day, for instance, never shines upon the miner at his work, "earning his bread by the sweat of his brow."

While there are many things that cannot at present be reached by legislation, those that can be reached should be, and stringent laws passed for the protection of the lives of those who follow this useful avocation.

In their present condition the coal mines of Missouri are a disgrace to civilization; badly ventilated, and with no escapement shafts for a miner should an "entry" cave in or a fire consume the wooden structures which surround a large number of these shafts. If such a fire should take place death would inevitably be the lot of those within. Such was the case at Avondale, Pa., Atwater, O., and at Sullivan, Ind. And should such an accident occur in Missouri we should have a similar horrifying and sickening disaster.

We have heard owners say "that they are well aware that *their* mines were not fit to work in, but so long as men would work in them, and so long as no law compelled them to provide such safeguards as would protect the lives of their employes they would not do it." Even if these hard-working miners could afford to leave, can the State afford to lose such an industrious and wealth-producing people? Other States in which this industry flourishes have laws for the protection of those who live by it, and if the State of Missouri desires to build up a powerful and prosperous commonwealth it must pass such laws as will encourage the development of every branch of labor and make the condition of the laborer one of comfort and enjoyment to himself and family.

In the absence of such laws they would undoubtedly go where they could obtain the protection denied them here.

## OPENING A MINE.

Mines are opened in this State in two ways: Where there is but a shallow amount of coal surface, and where it "crops" out in hills, mines are opened by what is known as "drifting." You find the "outcrop" of the coal and then drive your "entry" to the raise or dip, as the case may be. The coal in most parts of the State lying near level, the "main entry" is driven in a certain direction, east or west, north or south, then "cross entries" are driven on the same plan. If the "main entry" runs east and west the "cross entries" run north and south. To save expense, and, in the absence of a law requiring a thorough ventilation of the mines, single entries are driven, whereas there should be an entry running parallel with the main entry, about twelve feet of solid coal being left between to sustain the roof. However, entries are driven narrow because the mine owner has to pay so much per yard for driving them, in addition to the price paid for mining coal in wide work, or what is known as rooms.

This extra expense few will incur until they are compelled, by law, to do so; and until this is done miners will have to inhale carbonic gas, causing sickness and sometimes death to themselves and want and misery to their families.

When the coal lies a considerable depth below the surface, and where no "out crops" exist, a "shaft" has to be sunk until the coal is reached, when entries are driven as in the case of drifts. As a matter of course it requires considerable more capital to sink a shaft than to open a drift, and the dangers which surround the miner are greatly multiplied. This, however, will be treated in its proper place.

## VENTILATION.

The miners of this State request of its Legislature the passage of a "ventilation law" which shall secure to the miners a sufficient amount of pure air while engaged in their unhealthy occupation. To secure such an amount of pure air "double entries," or two entries running parallel with each other, must be driven, so that when the pure air cannot reach to the face of the entry, an air hole can be driven from one to the other. When this air hole becomes too far back from the face of the workings, another air hole must be driven and the first carefully filled up so that no air can escape through it. These air holes should be driven as often as necessary. Doors, also, are needed in proper places to keep the air in the right direction. These doors should be so hung as to be self-closing, and should never be left open longer than necessary for the men or mule with its train of cars to pass through. No place for the air

to pass through should be left at the sides, top or bottom of the door. These doors should be placed wherever needed to turn the current of air. In the absence of legislation, the present arrangements are very defective. These doors, defective as they generally are, are often left open from the time the driver with his mule and train commences to run in the morning until he quits in the evening, thus causing the miner to inhale more carbonic gas than necessary were the doors kept closed. To remedy this evil, a man should accompany each train to close all doors as soon as the train had passed through.

#### AIRWAYS.

Airways should always be made sufficiently large to admit an ample current of air, and should never be allowed to fill up with debris falling from the roof or sides. These airways should be always be kept so that a man could walk through them with ease, and not have to crawl, serpent-like, on his belly, as is the case now in many mines. Airways should be frequently examined and all fallen debris removed. Under existing arrangements airways are allowed to become choked with fallen debris; no notice is taken of the miners so long as their lamps keep burning, but when the lights burn blue, indicating more than the usual quantity of carbonic gas, the man in charge of the mine begins to look after the airways. Often, he gets a small boy to crawl over what is known among miners as "gobs," and when he has moved the obstruction so that he can crawl through, the airway is pronounced by the "mine boss" in good condition, and the men informed that they must resume work if their lamps will burn at all. In the rooms where the miners work there is not sufficient air to move the flame on the lamp. Not enough to live in—the miner merely exists. That is the cause why so many sallow-faced and hollow-eyed men are to be seen in our mining districts. That is why miners resort to groggeries to recuperate their stupefied senses, stupefied by constant inhalation of the noxious gases by which they are surrounded. While such evils are permitted, the citizens of the State are in a great measure responsible for their continuance.

#### FURNACES AND AIR SHAFTS.

Each mine, whether it be a "drift" or "shaft," should have an air shaft, when the mine has been worked for any length of time. Air shafts should always be sunk before the noxious gases get so strong that it is dangerous for the men to continue work. It requires three feet of pure air to move one foot of carbon gas or "black damp," which is so deadly to the miner. When the air shaft is sunk a furnace should

be built for the purpose of keeping a good fire, the fire, as is well known, having a tendency to create a draught. Thus the pure air which descends through the "main" or hoisting shaft goes through the "face" of the workings and returns through the air shaft, which, as a matter of course, is an "up-cast," and elevated higher than the main or hoisting shaft. The fire naturally attracting or drawing the air from the down-cast, the volume of air is greatly increased by having a good fire. Carbonic gas cannot accumulate, as the current through the down-cast is larger and better able to cope with carbonic gas than a weak current would be. The absence of pure air in sufficient quantities is the great cause of "black damp" and also of "white damp." The white damp is really the most dangerous of the two. In the white damp the miner's lamp burns bright and clear, but its effect on the miner is one of sudden langour, his senses desert him and he finally falls to sleep. That sleep is often the sleep of death. White damp prevails where ventilation is defective and where a great deal of blasting is done. Air shafts, in the absence of compulsory laws, are in many ways but poor affairs, and the furnaces are a good deal worse; in fact, in many of the mines there is nothing but an old second-hand nearly worn out heating stove, which had been used in the mine owner's office until it had become worthless for that purpose. It is then placed in the mine instead of a furnace, its capacity, as a matter of course, being totally inadequate to the requirement, a furnace with a capacity for consuming forty to fifty bushels of coal being required to carry out the noxious gases. The stove, with its two- or three bushels, its maximum capacity, is nothing but a delusion and a snare, a saving to the mine owner, but death to the miner.

#### MINE BOSSES.

The "mine boss" should be an experienced, competent and capable miner, one who thoroughly understands the mode of ventilating a mine; and see, also, that all work is performed for the mutual benefit of employer and employee. When such a man has full control over a mine, everything works smoothly; every door is kept in repair; air-ways are driven at the proper time and in the proper places; double-entries take the place of single entries; all places where air can escape are effectually closed; the furnace is not a worn-out stove, neither is the fire left to smoulder and die out. Such a man is a benefit to the mine owner and to the miner. Yet we find but few such men as here described holding the position. Mine bosses are frequently ignorant of all that is necessary for them to know; the only thing a large number of them can do is to act the tyrant towards those they deem helpless. Such men are chosen for two reasons: First, they work for small

pay and do the bidding of the mine owner without question. They are told that to work the mine with the least expense to the company is their duty, regardless of the health and safety of the miner. This they do until the mine is finally rendered unfit to work in; a large territory of unworked coal is abandoned, because these ignoramuses do not understand how it can be worked, thus entailing a loss to all concerned. Second, this class of bosses are frequently hired to take in a "green" lot of hands when the regular miners may be on a "strike" against a reduction, or for an advance in wages. The competent and capable mine boss will not take such a class of men, knowing full well that such men are really a detriment to mine owners. It is then that mine owners employ such ignorant men as they can find to do what capable, conscientious men will not do. Thus, where no law exists requiring the safety of the miner's health and life, this ignorant class of men get elevated to positions they are incapable of filling

#### ESCAPEMENT SHAFTS.

Every mine, shafts particularly, should have an "escapement shaft," with all necessary facilities for escape, should an accident occur, such as "caving" in of the main way of egress from the mine, or of fire communicated to the wooden structure surrounding nearly all the shafts in this State. We do not wish an escapement shaft to be confounded with an air shaft. The air shaft, if properly used, cannot, in any instance, be used as an escapement shaft. The air shaft is to be used for the purpose of ventilation, and for that alone. The escapement shaft is to be used when the usual way of egress is blocked by water, a caving in of the roof, or any other accident that would obstruct the main way of escape.

The necessity for escapement shafts is so plain that the most ignorant can see the utility of them. And every mine owner should have human feeling enough to provide the necessary safeguards to human life without the requirement of law to compel him to do his duty to those whom he employs. But alas, avarice and the love of wealth stifle the promptings of our better natures, and the result is that our mines are without escapement shafts. And should such a disaster happen in our State as happened at Avondale, Pa., or Atwater, O., the result would be the same, every miner would perish from the deadly effects of carbonic gas. Their chances for life would be less than the chances of a seaman on a burning ship in mid ocean, for in the latter case the boats would be at hand with the hope of being rescued by a passing ship, but the miner would have to die like a rat in its hole. We therefore hope that when the bill for the ventilation and

regulation of mines is brought before the next legislature, that no member in either house will be so inhuman as to vote against the protection of the miner's life.

#### DEFECTIVE ROPES.

The ropes used for the hoisting of men and material should be strong, well greased, and often examined by those who have the responsible position of mine boss. But, too frequently, no heed is taken of the ropes. They are allowed to rust without grease, and strand after strand is broken, and no new rope to replace them until they snap in two. It is almost a miracle that more accidents do not occur from old defective ropes. Every cage should have an apparatus attached to it, so that if a rope should break the cage would be held in the shaft. Such safety springs could be obtained for a trifle; they are used throughout the mining regions of Pennsylvania and other States. Such appliances are unknown in this State, or if known, they are unheeded by the mine owners.

#### GUARDS ON TOP OF SHAFTS.

There should be gates or guards placed around the "top" of each shaft, so that when dark, if a miner made a mis-step he would not be hurled into the abyss beneath. As things are at present, a stumble or a mis-step might be the cause of his plunging head foremost into the gaping jaws of death. Each cage should also be protected by a "cap" or "bonnet" made of sheet iron, so that should a piece of coal or earth fall down the shaft when men are descending or ascending, it would fall on the cap and shield the men. The cost of such things are trifling, yet it would seem as if such trifles were of more importance to mine owners than the lives of their employes.

#### ENGINEERS.

The position of an engineer is a very responsible one. Twice every day does the lives of the miners depend upon his capability and care. None should ever aspire to such a position without a thorough and special knowledge of mechanics; and none but sober men should be hired by the mine owners; none should be employed who could not show a diploma or license. The idea of hiring a poor engineer because he will work for low wages, should be scouted by the mine owners. Yet, we are sorry to say, that such is not the case. Men who have never seen the inside of a machine shop are put in positions where the

lives of men are dependent on their knowledge and skill; knowledge they cannot have, for many who run engines at our mines were brought up on farms; perhaps they may have run a thresher for a season, and that seems to be sufficient to constitute them full fledged engineers. And in some places such men are hired because they will work for low wages; and in addition to running the engine, will be their own firemen, weigh the coal and dump it into the railroad cars. A competent engineer will not undertake so many jobs. Running an engine and keeping it in repair is enough for him to attend to; but the man who is unskilled will work for a pittance and do almost anything to retain his place.

#### MINE INSPECTOR.

There should be a law passed embodying the above requirements, and stating also the amount of pure air required for the maintenance of the health of the miner. The amount of pure air required, by law, in Pennsylvania and Illinois, is one hundred cubic feet per minute for each man in the mine, and that passing through the face of the workings, and *not* in the "main entry" only. When we have such a law on our statute books, with rigid penalties for its violation, it will become necessary to have an *Inspector of Mines* for the State, to see that the law is strictly enforced and all offenders punished for non-compliance therewith. The inspector should be a capable and conscientious practical miner, who should be paid a fair salary, so that he would not be hampered in his duties. Objections may be offered to the creation of another office in the State, thus entailing more burdens on the tax-payers, but we firmly believe that such objections, on examination, will prove to be groundless, and the objectors convinced that it is the duty of the State to protect its citizens in the enjoyment of life and pursuit of happiness. In the present case this never can be done until we have a law, and a practical man to see the law enforced; and if Missouri is to prosper by this growing industry, she must pass laws to protect the lives of those who create and build up that industry. We advocate that the mine inspector be a State officer, so that the whole State may be benefited by the law.

#### OVERWEIGHT.

Having treated, with some degree of fullness, the inside workings and necessities of coal mining, I proceed, in the next place, to the consideration of wrongs to which the miner is subjected, and detrimental to the public interests. First in order is the imposition requiring the

miner to give eighty-five pounds of coal to the bushel. This is a glaring outrage, without the semblance of right or justice; yet the miners have neither the means nor the power to redress such wrongs but by resorting to a "strike," and when miners strike they have to come in contact with the improvident and unprovided of their own class, who have to continually work or starve. And if the strikers attempt to persuade these men not to work, they are branded as outlaws, rioters and communists, and the State, in being called upon to suppress them, places itself in the unavoidable position of defending injustice, upholding the wrong and using the law to crush the weak and powerless. This chapter is written for the purpose of showing the injustice to which the miners of this State have to submit, and to show how powerless they are to redress the wrongs that oppress them.

The miners of this State screen the coal in the mine and it is sent to market without further screening, and sold to the consumer at so much per bushel—the legal bushel of eighty pounds. Thus the miner is robbed of five pounds of coal without reason or excuse. This illegitimate curtailment of his wages should be denounced by every honest citizen, and the perpetrators sent to the penitentiary for grand larceny. In some localities the operators, not content with this trifling amount of pelf, resort to the "docking system." They will claim that the coal is not sufficiently screened to go into market, and under this plea will "dock" or deduct whatever they see fit. If the car of coal to be docked weighs one thousand pounds, they will take five hundred, and sometimes take all. Instead of being laid aside as unmarketable, that coal is dumped into the cars with the rest and sent to market.

The system of docking is frequently resorted to in the case of men who are put forward to advocate the rights of their fellow miners. The boss or mine owner fearing that a direct discharge of those who have the manliness to resist such robbery might lead to trouble, and perhaps a suspension of work, resort to a characteristic method of carrying out their designs. The fact has also been clearly proven, in numberless instances, that no one thinks of questioning it who works in the mines. And this is the way it is done: Two men are put to work in a "room," one being an objectionable man who will venture a remonstrance if he thinks he is wronged. The two men work in partnership; one loads the car while the other gets the coal ready. In order to get rid of these troublesome characters—the remonstrants—they are charged with sending up "dirty" coal when the loading was done by the other. A discharge follows, and the guilty man escapes because he has nothing to say. The man who maintains his independence and demands justice, is doomed to go.

**LONG PAYS.**

Another evil prevalent throughout the State is technically known as "long pays." The miner has to work one month and wait till the twentieth of the following month before he reaps the fruits of his labor for the previous month. The result of this pernicious system is that a man has to resort to the degrading credit system, and, consequently, cannot lay out his money to the best advantage. He has also to take the storekeeper's goods at a high price, and very often they are of an inferior quality. Very often the miner cannot get credit when he goes to a strange place, and in this case he has to fall back on the credit of his employer and the "order" system. The mine owners say they give "orders" to accommodate their employes, but we see that it is not merely accommodation, but a source of profit to them as they discount their own paper five cents on every dollar. If the mine owner discounts his own paper five per cent., is it unreasonable to suppose that according to our modern system of business the storekeeper would take five, and between the two, give the miner ninety cents' worth, and call it a dollar? This is the state of affairs brought about by "long pays." In fact, under such a system the mine owner needs very little, if any, capital of his own, when he can get labor without remuneration for seven weeks. As labor is the only creator of values and capital it should not be fleeced by a joint partnership in supplying the necessities of life under the "disguise of accommodation." In some places in the State, the mine owners have their own stores, designated by some as "Truck Stores," or "Pluck-me's." Where such stores exist every thing is kept for the accommodation of the miner. He is expected to take his hard earned wages out of this "Pluck-me," and some of them keep whisky, wine and beer. He is expected to procure all his supplies at such stores, and if not, his "walking," not his working orders, are given him. The quality of the goods kept in such stores is inferior and the prices charged higher than those asked by legitimate dealers. It is thus that the truck store or pluck-me extorts from ten to fifteen per cent. from the wages of labor. These woes of the miners are the offspring of "long pays," and tend to enrich the mine owner and impoverish the producing miner, and unless the mining fraternity resort to some mode of co-operation in the immediate future their condition will be worse than the serfs of Russia.

**HOUSES.**

Some of the mine owners have what they call houses, others call them "shanties," because they are of a very poor quality, and every-

thing about them small and inconvenient—but the rent—well, that is not so small as the house. The miner is told that the houses, like the stores, are put up for the "accommodation" of the men. We have known instances where single men have had to rent a house in order to get employment. We have seen houses which have been erected for the accommodation of miners, in such a condition that with the mercury at twelve degrees below zero you could study astronomy like a book by gazing upwards from your pillow. What matter if the man who toils and sweats all day in the mines does take cold in such airy shebangs?

#### CHILD-LABOR IN THE MINES.

This is an evil existing in every State having no prohibitory law, but the miner is more to blame for this than the mine owner. The child of nine or ten years old is taken into the mine, there to inhale the deadly carbonic gas, instead of inhaling the pure breezes, which, under any and all circumstances, should be the portion of a child. Yet the parents will claim that they have large families which need the assistance of such boys to support, never taking into consideration that they are dwarfing that child, physically and mentally, for the paltry pittance which he earns. So, if the parent shows a want of parental feeling towards its own offspring, it then becomes the duty of the State to interpose for the protection of the child. The State cannot afford to look idly on a practice that is sure to result in the production of a race of physical dwarfs and intellectual pygmies. It is the duty of every patriotic citizen in a government like ours to see that the next generation is better than the past or present. And to secure this end, no child should be allowed to enter the mine to work until it is fourteen years of age, and not then unless it has received a good common school education. Ignorance is the final curse which has blighted labor's brightest hopes. It is a burning shame to this nation of free schools that some of its citizens cannot write their own name.

#### CHECK-WEIGHMAN.

Almost every mine in the State needs a check-weighman to see that the coal of the miner is honestly weighed, and that he gets the full amount of coal mined, which he very frequently does not get. A mine owner, actuated by a desire to deal honestly by his men, cannot object, as the check-weighman is appointed and paid by the miners. Yet, such objection is made and the privilege blankly refused, and when the miners have insisted on it, they have in every instance found that the scales did not weigh correctly, or that a system of stealing had prevailed by which they were defrauded out of some of the results of their hard

earned labor. Yet some mine owners strenuously oppose check-weighmen, notably at Lexington, where it is openly claimed that colored miners are defrauded of one-third of their earnings by short weight in coal and short weight in the "truck store." At other places check-weighmen are not allowed. *The inference is plain to the thinking mind.*

#### STRIKES.

Miners are generally held up to public view as a discontented and avaricious class of people, whenever miners are mentioned by the "capitalistic press" of the county, it is always as a band of malcontents, a mob, or communists who are striking for something unreasonable, the government, State or national, is called on for troops to put them down, and the people, misled by the press, condemn without hearing, never stopping a moment to inquire whether the demands of the men are just or unjust. As a rule, miners have more cause for striking than the outside world is aware of. With many of their grievous wrongs and oppressions bearing heavily down upon them, they toil on, avoiding many a justifiable strike as they would a viper. But the worm, persistently trodden upon, at last turns upon its enemy. Were the miners the discontented class of people that they are represented to be, there would be fifty strikes where there is now one. They forbear until forbearance ceases to be a virtue.

#### THICKNESS OF VEINS AND PRICE OF MINING.

The coal veins in the State range in thickness from fifteen inches to four feet. The thin veins are worked extensively at Richmond and Camden, Ray county, and at Lexington, Lafayette county. At Lexington the vein is on an average less than two feet thick, with quite an amount of roof coming down with the coal. Up to the first of June, 1880, the miners received five cents per bushel for mining, giving 85 lbs. to the bushel. On the above date a reduction of  $37\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. was offered by the mine owners, and, being rejected by the miners, a suspension of work followed which has continued up the present time (Aug. 16th, 1880). The miners at Lexington dig the coal, load it, push it out of the mine and dump it into the railroad car, doing the work of both men and mules. The reduction offered them would barely shelter and keep a mule. A large number of the miners at Lexington are colored men.

The vein at Richmond runs from two feet to thirty inches, and 4½ cents paid for mining 85 lbs. of clear coal. At Montserrat the mines

were worked by convicts up to the second day of August, 1880. Their labor was very detrimental to the interests of those miners who wished to live honest lives and keep out of the penitentiary. The return of the convicts within the prison walls was hailed with delight by every miner in the State, and it is their fervent wish that never more will they be compelled to "compete with prison labor."

Bevier has a vein of four feet and the miners are paid  $3\frac{1}{2}$  cents per bushel of 85 lbs.

The veins at Huntsville, Renick, Elliott, Shafton, Lingo, Lewis, and Brown Station, are about four feet thick and 4 cents per bushel of 85 lbs. is paid for mining. There are other unimportant mines in other counties of the State, where the mining is confined to the country trade.

It would be impossible to enumerate all such mines without taking up too much space; let it suffice that they all greatly need the benefit of a stringent mining law.

#### MINERS' LACK OF ADVANTAGES.

Mining villages are generally situated some distance from a town or city, and in consequence the miner is debarred from gaining reliable information on many topics of the day; and when he receives the news in his weekly newspaper, it is boiled down so that he cannot get the full meaning of it.

There are no public libraries where he can cultivate his mind, no societies where he can develop his latent talents, no building at his command where he can meet with others to discuss subjects of interest, unless it be the "saloon" and the truck store of his employer, and if he should happen to be too outspoken at the latter place, he is informed that his services are no longer required. The school houses of the State are closed against him, and he is left without any place where free speech is allowed, excepting it be the saloon, where good ideas soon become muddled with bad whisky and the fumes of bad cigars.

We often find operators showing their willingness to help build churches, but rarely suggesting or encouraging the erection of halls where their employes could educate and improve themselves. They can find money to send bibles to the heathen, but none to pay their workmen's wages, when hardly and honestly earned, or to provide mental food for those they employ. Knowledge at a distance seems to be their desire. But while employers may be justly charged with negligence and indifference, we would not like to let the present opportunity slip without whispering a word in our fellow workman's ear. Let not

the negligence or indifference of your employer prevent you from making an effort in your own behalf. Instead of spending your money in the gin mill, lay it in a fund so that you can erect a hall and procure a library which will tend to dispel ignorance and bring knowledge amongst you. It will be a power which will tend to remove many of the evils with which you are now encompassed; it will bring light to dispel the darkness; it will bring day instead of night.

#### MISREPRESENTATION OF MINERS.

The miners, as a class, have been foully misrepresented by the press of the country. False reports of their movements, circulated by the press, being the only source of information obtainable by the farmers and mechanics; a feeling of distrust has been engendered against this most useful class of citizens; distrust has fostered prejudice, and prejudice has warped the judgment in its decisions. The miner is looked upon as an assassin, an agrarian, an incendiary and a Mollie McGuire; for the existence of such a feeling in the public mind the miners have to thank the press.

When a convention of the leading miners of Missouri, Kansas, Colorado and the Indian Territory, met in Kansas City to devise ways and means for bettering their condition it was trumpeted about by the *Journal* of that city that they were a band of Mollie McGuires, unknown to the Western miners, though it was known that every one of them was selected to attend that convention. Not until the *Pioneer* gave a full report of the proceedings of the convention did the *Journal* feel called upon to eat its own words. Such reports have been highly detrimental to the miners of the State. Even in Randolph county farmers have objected to the children of miners attending the same school with their children. The miners have done nothing to deserve such treatment.

Take the criminal statistics of any district in the country and you will find fewer convictions of miners than of any other trade or calling. The miners work hard under adverse circumstances to maintain themselves and families. They have tender hearts and open hands to minister to the wants of others who suffer.

The burning of Chicago will show that trait of character in them. A majority of the miners of the West then gave one day's labor to the sufferers. In many other cases the same charitable disposition has been shown to suffering humanity. Why, then, this wholesale misrepresentation? It is created by the capitalistic press, at the instigation of the mine owners, to prejudice the minds of our people against the miners, thus having public opinion in their favor against the miner.

We have known mine owners, when miners had suspended work against an unjust reduction of wages, to hunt up from the slums of our towns and cities disreputable characters, arm them with revolvers and rifles, then telegraph for the military, expressing their fears of an outbreak or riot; and if by parading these characters in the street they could drive the miners to resent some insult, their object was gained. A perverted statement of facts is flashed over the wires by the associated press that the miners are committing terrible outrages and that life and property are endangered.

#### CONCLUSION.

Some of the facts contained in this chapter will doubtless seem imaginary to some; yet, nevertheless, they can be substantiated by honest, upright men, in every mining district in our State. The "hydra-headed" grievances exist in all their deformities, and it is the prayer of the miners of this State that some means will be devised by the Legislature to remove these grievances as far as possible. They demand a thorough *ventilation and mine regulation law*, and the abolition of the *truck system*, and *long pays*. They ask the Legislature to partially relieve them from the oppression and tyranny of mine owners. They ask for partial relief, because it is well known to the leading minds that complete relief can only come by their becoming their own employers. They know that co-operation is the only cure for the evils to which they are subject, but until the dawn of that brighter era they must be protected by the State in their hazardous occupation, and it is the duty of the State to see that justice is done them.

With this we commend the case to the honorable Senate and House of Representatives of Missouri.

## Visits of Bureau.

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We give, under this head, an account of our visit to the coal mines located in Ray, Lafayette, Randolph and Macon counties, together with the testimony obtained from miners :

### RAY COUNTY.

The coal measures of Ray county underlie nearly one-fourth of the county and is generally called a two-feet vein, but in reality is not more than eighteen to twenty-two inches in thickness. The coal crops out along the Missouri bluffs, and ravines in the southern portion of the county, where it can be taken out by stripping and drifting; but generally it lies from 60 to 100 feet below the surface. St. Joseph is the principal market; from there it is shipped to Kansas, and as far north as Nebraska.

July 27, 1880, visited Hughes & Co.'s coal mines, located half a mile from Richmond, on the Lexington and St. Joseph branch of the Wabash, St. Louis and Pacific Railroad. The firm has three shafts in operation, with a producing capacity of 5,000 bushels of coal per day. The amount of coal taken out from July, 1878, to July, 1880, was 412,500 bushels. They employ on an average 160 persons; price paid for digging,  $4\frac{1}{2}$  cents per bushel. Shafts No.'s 5 and 7 are 70 feet deep, 11 by 5 feet 8 inches in width; air shafts, 4 by 5 feet. No 6 is 100 feet deep, 10 by 4 feet 8 inches in width; air shaft, 4 by 3 feet. All the above shafts have but one opening, that is the main shaft. The air shafts, in this case, are really a part of the main shaft, separated only by a wooden partition, and the miners complain that the air is often very bad, and in case of fire or other accident to the shaft or entry, escape would be utterly impossible.

Visited the mines of Blair & Slayden. This firm owns two separate shafts, one being in operation, the other idle in consequence of the dull season at the time of our visit. Shaft No. 3 is 60 feet deep, 10 by 5 feet in width; air shaft, 4 by 5 feet. No. 4 is 80 feet deep, 10 by 5 feet

in width ; air shaft, 5 by 3 feet. The air shafts are constructed on the same principle as Hughes & Co.'s. The firm employs 25 men and takes out an average of 1,200 bushels of coal per day. The air in the pit very often, in sultry weather, gets so bad that the lamps refuse to burn.

Visited W. Rankin & Co.'s mines, located half-way between Richmond and Lexington Junction. The firm were working one drift and opening another one. They employ 30 men, mostly negroes, and take out from 1,200 to 1,500 bushels of coal per day. The drifts are nearly 1,000 feet long ; have one air shaft and two openings, the drifts being connected by the cutting of an entry from one mine to the other, which, in case of accident, would greatly facilitate the means of escape. But in these, as in other mines, foul air often accumulates by reason of imperfect ventilation. Besides, the mines are very wet, the drift descending towards the face of the coal.

During our visit another mine, north of Richmond, was being opened by Hubble & Co. They had already reached a depth of about 50 feet ; the shaft is 12 by 6 feet in width ; the air shaft, 2 by 6, being a part of the main shaft.

#### LAFAYETTE COUNTY.

Coal of good quality is found in nearly all parts of Lafayette county. The vein has an average of 22 inches in thickness. The coal is sold to railroad and steamboat companies, and a large proportion is shipped to Kansas City and the West.

July 28, 1880, visited Lexington. On our arrival we ascertained that the miners were on a strike since the first of June against a reduction from 5 to 3½ cents per bushel, some 500 miners participating in the strike. From a reliable source the following information was obtained :

The Lexington and Kansas City Coal Company, located on the narrow gauge branch of the Missouri Pacific Railroad, own 9 separate drifts, and when in operation employ about 250 persons, with a producing capacity of about 4,000 bushels per day.

J. C. McGrew owns two shafts, one located five the other seven miles south of Lexington ; employs from 60 to 70 miners ; daily production, 2,000 bushels.

Joseph Graddy & Co. own three drifts two and one-half miles south of Lexington ; employ 30 men when in operation ; daily put-out, 1,200 bushels.

A. O'Maley, two and one-fourth miles south of Lexington, owns three drifts ; employs 25 men ; average daily production, 1,100 bushels.

Lexington Coal Company own one shaft half a mile south of Lexington, on the Sedalia branch of the Missouri Pacific Railroad; employ, when in operation, about 150 persons, with a producing capacity of 3,000 bushels per day.

Several small drifts, supplying local trade, are located on the outskirts of Lexington, and employ from three to ten men each.

With the exception of J. C. McGrew, who is credited by the miners with keeping his mines in good order, the miners report all the above mines in a poor condition, there being no artificial means, excepting the furnace, to conduct fresh air into the mines. The consequence is that "black damp" accumulates in less than twenty-four hours, making it unsafe for any one to enter before the obnoxious gas is removed. The above drifts range from three hundred to fifteen hundred feet in length, and are not provided with any escapes.

#### RANDOLPH COUNTY.

Coal beds are found nearly all over the county; the main vein is four feet thick, and lies from sixty to one hundred and twenty feet below the surface.

Visited the Stewart Coal and Mining Co., at Huntsville. The company own one drift, and employ ten persons, and take out six hundred bushels of coal per day. In company with the "pit boss" we entered the drift, which is about five feet square and three hundred feet long; has one air shaft, four feet square, with an old heating stove in it instead of a furnace. The miners do not complain of bad air, and say the drift is easily ventilated on account of its short entries.

Visited the Huntsville Coal and Mining Company's mines. The company own two shafts, one (No. 3) located half mile east of the Huntsville court-house, opened in 1873, the other two miles northeast of Huntsville. They employ about one hundred persons, and dig three thousand bushels of coal per day, and, when in full operation, as high as four thousand, five hundred bushels have been taken out. Average employment in the year, eight months. In company with Mr. James F. Robinson, pit boss, we were shown through mine No. 3. The shaft is eighty-five feet deep, twelve by six feet in width, with two air shafts five by six feet. The air in the pit was heavy, making it difficult to breathe, and a certain dizziness was perceptible. Before we had fairly made up our minds to ascend the shaft again our escort said *he had to go out, as he was getting a headache from the bad air.* The miners claimed that the pit, on the day of our visit, was in better condition than usual, there being a strong wind on the surface; the miners say that some days the air in the mine gets so bad that they

have to come out, which, however, the pit boss claimed, only occurred when the mine was not worked for several days.

The Independent Coal Company own one shaft, opened in 1873; employ an average of twenty-five persons, and take out one thousand, five hundred bushels of coal per day. The shaft is sixty feet deep, ten by five feet in width; entries run seven hundred feet in a southern direction; air shaft four by five feet, located about four hundred and fifty feet from hoisting shaft. The mine was not in operation on the day of our visit; air occasionally very bad; no escapement shaft or other protection in case of an accident; average time employed in the year, ten months.

The Carbon Coal Company and Bailey's mine, located on W. St. L. & P. R. R., between Huntsville and Moberly, employ a number of hands, and are constructed on the same plan as the above shafts.

#### MACON COUNTY.

Coal, in large quantities, is found in the above county, cropping out in many places, thousands of acres being underlaid with it; average thickness of vein, four feet; principal market, St. Joseph.

July 31st, 1880, visited the mines of Loomis & Snively, located at Bevier; own two shafts, employ two hundred persons and take out six hundred bushels daily. The shafts are sixty and seventy feet deep, with one separate air shaft connected with each mine. The main shafts are ten by five feet in width. In conversation with miners it was ascertained that one of the shafts was unsafe to work in on many occasions; that very frequently they had to turn their lamps upside down to keep them burning. Openings of shafts are surrounded by frame sheds and engine house; no protection in case of fire or other accident. In the latter part of 1879 a boy twelve years of age was killed in one of these shafts by the falling of the roof in one of the entries.

Visited the mines of Atwell & Seip, located one-fourth mile north of Bevier, and opened in 1862. Own one shaft, sixty-five feet deep, twelve by six feet in width, with two air shafts separate from main shaft. In one of the air shafts a furnace is located, the other is intended for an escape shaft; but no ladder, rope or other appliances were to be seen that could be used in case of emergency. The entries are two thousand, six hundred and forty feet in length. The firm employs thirty-eight men, and thirteen boys from ten to fifteen years of age; daily production from fifteen hundred to eighteen hundred bushels; the pit boss showed us through the mine; as remarked before, this large mine has but one furnace in which the fire had almost gone out; the current of air, we were informed by the pit boss, moved at

the rate of thirty-five feet per minute in the entries; in moving along the entries we noticed a large amount of stone and slate stored on either side that had fallen down from the roof, there being no props to hold it in place, showing too plainly the insecurity of the roof when not properly supported.

Thomas Wardell owns one shaft, (opened in 1879), one hundred and twenty feet deep, six by twelve feet in width, with one air shaft four by five feet, located about seventy-five feet from main shaft; employs thirty-five men and nine boys from twelve to seventeen years of age; daily output, eighteen hundred bushels. This mine, when idle for several days, is reported as accumulating foul air; no escapes of any kind in case of accident.

Visited the Missouri Coal and Mining Company, who own two mines, (known as the Summit mines), and which are respectively one hundred and forty and one hundred and fifty feet deep, with one air shaft serving for both mines, an entry having been driven from one pit to the other. The firm employ one hundred and twenty-five men and twenty-eight boys from ten to fourteen years of age; daily production, forty-five hundred bushels. No. 2 was very badly ventilated before the connection was made with No. 7; while the ventilation is still imperfect, yet the connecting entry in case of fire or other accident, would greatly facilitate the chances of escape.

Many other mines could have been described, but the above are among the largest, if not the most extensive mines in the State. And as the balance are all constructed on the same plan, the above description will serve to show how the miners by hundreds are driven into a mine, to toil with not air enough to live in, nor the means of escape in case of accident.

#### CHECK-WEIGHMEN.

So far as we could ascertain, check-weighmen are an exception rather than a rule, at the coal mines in Missouri. It would naturally be supposed that all miners would desire a checkweighman, but the supposition is incorrect. A great many of the miners refuse to contribute their share to defray the expense incurred by the employment of a check-weighman, saying they would get no better weight than before, or as one miner put it, "the miners would rather let the operators cheat them out of one dollar per week than give ten cents to employ a check-weighman."

In no other employment is the workman so absolutely dependent on the honesty of his employer as that of mining coal. The miner fills his car in the pit, perhaps one hundred feet below the surface of

the earth, and a half mile away from an opening or shaft. The car is drawn out, placed on the scales, and weighed by an employe paid by the operator, and whatever weight the weighman gives for such car, the miner gets paid for. Thus it will be seen that the miner has to depend entirely—where no check weighman is employed—on the weight given by the employer or his agent, it being simply impossible for him to be present when the coal is weighed.

In a few instances the miners are satisfied with the weight they receive, but the majority openly avow dissatisfaction, and claim that they are outrageously robbed. So far as could be ascertained by the Bureau, check-weighmen are only employed at the mines at Bevier, Macon county. Whether a check-weighman is necessary or not, must be determined by the facts. At Bevier, in the Spring of 1880, the miners asked the operators to be allowed to place a check-weighman at each mine; the request was granted by a few, the balance of the operators refusing point blank; the result was that the miners went on a strike until the employers acceded to their demand.

While we were at Lexington many were the complaints made to us in regard to the system practiced there of weighing coal; and in order to illustrate how the poor miner was imposed upon, the following case was reported by one of the miners, and corroborated by all that we came in contact with:

The miners had noticed for some time that they were receiving short weight, and came to the conclusion to examine the scales. To their surprise, they found a box of iron bolts and nuts placed under the scale in such a manner as to cut from one hundred and twenty-five to one hundred and fifty pounds on a car loaded with coal, weighing from twelve hundred to fourteen hundred pounds. In explanation of this extraordinary occurrence, it was claimed by the weigher that the box was placed there to balance the scale.

The miners claim that they reported the case to the grand jury, but that august body took no notice of the matter. An effort was made by us to find the men that examined the scale, but in this we were not successful, the parties having left to seek work elsewhere on account of the strike that existed during our visit. But that the statement above referred to is true, is beyond doubt. The *Lexington Register*, in its issue of May 6, 1880, has the following to say on the above subject:

If we are correctly informed, a very bad feeling exists between the weighmasters and the miners in a certain coal bank. If we have been told the true story of the difficulty, we are inclined to believe that the coal miners are in the right, and the pro-

prietors of the mines should see to it that the weighmasters do not take advantage of the hard working miners in weighing their coal. A weighmaster who would thus swindle a miner is none too good to commit a higher crime.

While the existence of the "bad feeling" and its cause was too well known to admit of doubt, the *Register* unintentionally falls into an error in throwing the blame of the fraudulent practice upon the weighmaster instead of his employer. While it is true that men will commit fraud either through fear of losing their places or for the sake of standing well in the estimation of their employer, it is equally true that in cases like the one now under consideration, men can be hired to commit any wrong, which, if investigated, would subject both employe and employer to the penalties of the law. This view of the question is fully sustained by the numerous disagreements continually occurring between miners and operators, not only in this State, but in other States where this branch of industry is pursued. The perpetration of such frauds and their exposure through the investigations of the Bureau constitute one of the most convincing proofs of the necessity for such a department, and an imperative demand for the most stringent legislation for the punishment and suppression of such crimes.

The miners at Lexington claim that they have made numerous applications to be allowed a check-weighman, but the operators in each case peremptorily refused to comply with the request, and, it is claimed, discharged the person that made the application. Why the coal operators should refuse to allow their employes a check-weighman is a mystery to every fair-minded citizen that loves justice, to say the least; there is no extra expense incurred by the firm, nor could any objection be raised by any employer if one or more persons watch the weigher and keep an accurate account of the coal produced, so long as he gives full weight.

In many instances the miners are deterred by fear from making a demand for a check-weighman, and work on dissatisfied and rebellious, waiting for an opportunity when they can openly revolt and enforce their rights. Many strikes have occurred on account of short weight received by the miners. At Lexington as high as three strikes in six weeks have occurred on account of a certain weigher, but all to no avail, the company paying no attention whatever to the complaint of the miners.

A correspondent writing from Kansas City, who was formerly employed in the mines at Lexington and Camden, has the following to say on the subject of short weight:

I wish to call your attention to the law of weights and measures. The majority of the coal operators in this part of the country (Benton and Lafayette counties) outrageously rob the miners by giving them short weight, and they do it with impunity. If a miner grumbles he is spotted and the first opportunity that offers he is discharged, the miner, knowing that he has no other alternative but to grin and bear it, scarcely ever says anything about it. I have searched the statutes of this State, and the only penalty I can find for a violation of the law on weights and measures is a fine of ten dollars, when, in my judgment, it should not be less than one year in the State prison at hard labor. I must say that I know of some coal operators that are disposed to deal fairly with their men, but how can they when they have to compete with those daylight robbers at Lexington? The Lexington Coal Company have their weigh offices so constructed that when they are weighing the miner's coal he cannot see whether he is getting justice or not. The company also has a notice on the door which reads, "No miners allowed in here."

Another (No. 1,744), writing from Lexington, says:

We have to give eighty-five pounds of coal to the bushel, but they rob us greatly in the weight, taking at least one hundred pounds to the bushel.

#### DOCKING AND OVER-WEIGHT.

Another evil greatly complained of by miners is the system of docking and taking over-weight for unclean coal. In the first place, the operators require the miner to give "eighty-five pounds" to the bushel. This system of taking over-weight was first introduced by the operators at Bevier. When the shafts were first opened the coal was wet, owing to the fact that the mines were not properly drained. The operators claimed that the coal, when dry, weighed less than when it was brought from the pit, and that they were losing money on their contracts. The miners were then prevailed upon to give eighty-five pounds to the bushel, with the understanding that when the coal in the mines got dry, eighty pounds to the bushel should again be the standard weight. The miners acceded to the demand of the operators, and when the coal got dry again they asked to have the old system of eighty pounds to the bushel re-established, but the operators refused the request, claiming now that the five pounds should be thrown in for unclean coal, such as sulphur or slate. The miners at first were not satisfied at the turn things had taken, but finally submitted. Other operators, one by one, followed suit, until to-day there are very few, if any, operators, who do not exact five pounds over-weight on the bushel from the already poor-paid miners.

While at Richmond, standing on the platform at one of the coal shafts, watching the weigher weighing the coal and dumping it on the

platform, a car filled with coal was sent up by one of the men in the pit; the weigher noticed some unclean coal on the car, when he immediately called down to the man in charge at the bottom of the shaft to tell Mr. — — — that he had docked him "two hundred" pounds on his car for unclean coal. This same car of coal was dumped with the other coal, and the unclean coal was not removed. The weigher was then asked if he had taken eighty-five pounds to the bushel from the car just docked. "Yes," was the reply, "that is the rule here."

There can be no question as to the right of an operator to reject all unclean coal, but he certainly has *no right* to dock several hundred pounds on a car, and then require the miner to give eighty-five pounds to the bushel. If the unclean coal was picked out before the car is weighed, and the standard weight of eighty pounds to the bushel be allowed, we are satisfied that no objection would be offered by the miner.

The enormity of this fraud is only fully exposed when the aggregate amount of coal taken in a year by overweight, under the false pretense of allowance for unclean coal, is presented in figures. Taking an average day's work in the mines at fifty bushels, five pounds overweight on each bushel makes two hundred and fifty pounds for the day. Allowing three hundred and eight working days in the year, we have the enormous aggregate of seventy-seven thousand pounds. This amount of coal, divided by eighty, the legal weight of a bushel of coal, gives nine hundred, sixty-two and one-fourth bushels, which, at 4 cts. per bushel, amounts to \$38.49. As some of the operators employ as many as 200 miners, it will be seen that the aggregate amount taken from them by the fraudulent system of overweight is swelled to the annual sum of \$7,698.00.

#### INCOMPETENT EMPLOYEES.

Coal shafts are divided into two classes: One is known as the "gin shaft," and is operated by horse power; the other is known as the "steam shaft," operated by steam. The former mode of operating is only in use at small mines, while the larger ones are worked by steam. Many of these engines are placed in charge of persons totally incompetent and without experience, for the simple purpose of saving a few dollars per week. A practical engineer always commands the wages of a first class mechanic, but on the score of economy such engineers are not employed, while men and boys who can put a shovelfull of coal into the furnace and open the valve are placed in charge of the engine, thus endangering the lives of miners at least twice a day, morning and evening, when they descend into and ascend from the shaft.

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In conversation with an engineer who has charge of an engine at one of the coal shafts at Bevier, he said: "To-day I am the only person on this track (in the vicinity of Bevier) in charge of an engine that can show up a license that he is a practical engineer. The operators employ incompetent men because they can hire them cheap."

The employment of incompetent persons in positions involving risk to human life should not be permitted under any circumstances. To jeopardize the lives of hundreds of citizens to fill the pockets of greedy employers should be regarded as criminal in the highest degree. But society, as constituted to-day, cares more for the mighty dollar than for the safety and welfare of some of its members. If by the burning of a factory, or the explosion of a steam boiler, or suffocation in a mine from poisonous air, ten or twenty human lives are lost, the employer is no sufferer by the loss. His stock and machinery being insured, in a few days the debris is cleared away, the factory, engine and boiler replaced, the mine is cleared of the foul air and the firm is ready for business again; and by a little hurrying up and the employment of an additional force who stand waiting for the places made vacant by death, the stoppage of a few days or weeks is soon made good. But the widows and orphans, made such by ignorance and avarice, are left to struggle for life unnoticed and uncared for; and to crown the criminality, no steps are taken to prevent the recurrence of such misdeeds.

What a commentary on our "boasted civilization." In the days of servitude the slave was well fed and clothed, and if he was taken sick or contracted a disease which might result in death, the possibility of such a result was a matter of concern to the master, for to him it was a matter of dollars and cents. Humanity now goes for nothing in our present system of political economy.

#### MINERS' HOMES.

The insatiable greed of human nature, when left to its own way, has furnished many a futile topic for the pen of the ready writer and the orator's tongue. Repeated over again it is the old story—"killing the goose that lays the golden egg." It is a great pity that at least one example cannot be found of an employer possessing so much of that quality which makes the whole world kin, as would prompt him to lead the way in improving the social and domestic conditions of those whose labor enriches him, by furnishing them, out of some of the surplus profits of his gains, pleasanter homes for the miner's family. But, say the gradgrinds, all this is mere sentimentalism, and sentimentalism has nothing to do with trade; the business of trade is to make money,

and it is thus that "man's inhumanity to man," through intense selfishness, begets unwilling work, poverty and misery, whereby the manifestation of a little generosity and care for the comfort of others on whose labor all prosperity depends, different conditions and a different state of feeling would prevail.

There can, therefore, be no question that if a sanitary committee was sent out by the Legislature to inspect the dwellings of the miners in our mining regions, a verdict of unqualified condemnation would be returned if the principle on which our State is founded, "the welfare of our citizens," was not lost sight of. The statement made by Mr. Thomas H. Evens, in relation to the condition of the miners' homes which have come under the observation, are well borne out by the investigations of the Bureau.

Many of the mine owners own the houses inhabited by the miners, and the condition of these houses is such as to call for legislative attention. Constructed of a frame-work of scantling, boards nailed perpendicularly to the scantling, or what is known amongst carpenters as "sheathed and battened," no plastering, no ceiling, mere shanties in which in winter a merciful man would not shelter his beast. At Richmond seventeen of these dwellings, occupied mostly by colored miners, came under our observation. These sheds are rented at from \$2.50 to \$5.00 per month.

At Lexington it gave the Bureau pleasure to note the miner's houses in better condition. Rents at Lexington vary from \$5.00 to \$7.00 per month. A few of the miners here are the owners of the houses they occupy.

At Huntsville rents range from four to six dollars per month, for houses containing two rooms and a kitchen, with a small garden patch.

The Missouri Coal and Mining Co. at Bevier own a number of houses occupied by miners. Rent \$5.00 per month.

Very little gardening is done by the miners. The reason given is that the miner has not the time nor the pecuniary means to fence sufficient ground for that purpose, and if he had the event of his becoming unemployed, and, with his family, having to seek work elsewhere, the money so expended would be a dead loss to him, the mine owner not compensating him for the improvements made.

#### MINING LAW.

We have now given a description of the coal mines of Missouri, as far as it can be presented by a picture of their condition, and have shown the necessity of a thorough mining law similar to those existing in Indiana, Illinois, Pennsylvania and other States. And we trust the

Legislature will take prompt and effectual action in the premises. In order to give a clearer idea of what is needed in the State, we here insert a copy of the law governing mines and mining in the State of Indiana.

**AN ACT** regulating the working of coal mines, etc., approved March 8, 1879.

Section 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Indiana.* That he term mine, as used in this act, includes every shaft, slope or drift which is used or has been used in the mining and removing coal from and below the surface of the ground.

Section 2. Six months from and after the taking effect of this act, it shall not be lawful for the owner or agent of any coal mine now operated, or which may be hereafter operated, worked by shaft, or slope, or drift, wherein over fifteen thousand square yards have been excavated, to employ more than ten persons to work in such mine, unless there are, to every seam or strata of coal worked in such mine, at least two separate outlets, separated by natural strata, of not less than one hundred feet in breadth, by which shafts or outlets, distinct means of ingress and egress are always available to the person employed in the mine; but it shall not be necessary for the two outlets to belong to the same mine; and every mine opened after the passage of this act, and after fifteen thousand square yards shall have been mined out of it, it shall be unlawful for the owner or agent to employ more than ten persons to work in said mine, in every twenty four hours, unless there are two distinct outlets; also in all slopes, drifts and main entries, a sufficient number of refuge holes shall be established.

Section 3. Within three months from the time this act takes effect the owner or agent of any coal mine shall make or cause to be made, an accurate map or plan of the workings of such mine, on a scale of not less than one inch to the one hundred feet, showing the area mined or excavated, and the location and connection with such excavation of the mine, of the lines of all adjoining land and the names of the owners of such land, so far as known, marked on each tract of land. Said map shall show a complete working of the mine, with map, when complete, shall be certified to by the owner or agent to the effect that the same is a true map of the working of said mine. A true copy of such map the owner or agent shall deposit with the mine inspector, within three months of the taking effect of this act; the original map and survey to be kept in the office of such mine, and to be open for inspection at all reasonable times; said map shall show the date of survey, and one survey shall be made each year, between the first days of May and September, and a new map, and a copy of the same, shall be filed as required in the original survey; or, the original map may be so amended each survey, so as to show the exact workings of the mine at the time the last survey was made.

Section 4. In case the owner or agent shall refuse to make and file the map or plan with the copy thereof contemplated in section three of this act, it shall be the duty of the mine inspector to issue his warrant to the county surveyor of the county where the mine is situated, commanding him to forthwith survey such mines and make an accurate map of such mine, and file the same in the office of such mine, and to furnish such inspector with a copy thereof, as required by section three of this act, for which services the surveyor shall be entitled, as a fee, the sum of five dollars per day for each day he may be employed in such survey, and making such map and copy thereof, and all his necessary expenses in procuring help to survey the mine; which fees, from the time the survey is made, shall be a lien upon the mine and everything appertaining thereto, and shall be collected by fee bill issued to the sheriff of the proper county,

collectable without relief from valuation laws, or the surveyor may have his right of action against the parties in any court having jurisdiction for the amount of his claim.

Section 5. Upon payment of the fees, the mine inspector shall, within a reasonable time, make and deliver to the party so demanding the same, an accurate copy of any map or plan of the workings of such mine that may be on file in his office.

Section 6. The original map or plan of any coal mine, or the copy filed with the inspector, or a certified copy, issued under the hand and seal of such inspector, shall be evidence in any court of justice in the State.

Section 7. The term owner, as used in this act, is hereby defined to mean the immediate proprietor, lessee, or occupier of any coal mine, or any part thereof, and the term agent is hereby defined to mean any person, other than the owner thereof, having the care or management of any coal mine, or any part thereof; and in case the mine is owned or occupied by a corporation, then any of its officers shall be deemed its agents.

Section 8. The owner or agent of any coal mine shall, within six months from the time this act takes effect, provide and establish a circulation of a sufficient amount of pure air to dilute and expel therefrom the noxious and poisonous gases, to such an extent that the entire mine shall be in a fit state, at all times, for the men to work therein, and be free from danger to their health and lives from said gases and impure air; said ventilation to be produced by any suitable appliance that will produce and insure a constant supply of pure air throughout the entire mine, but in no case shall a furnace be used at the bottom of the shaft in the mine where the hoisting apparatus and buildings are built directly over the top of the shaft, for the purpose of producing a hot up-cast of air. Every such mine shall have ventilation affording one hundred cubic feet per minute for each and every person employed in such mine, which shall be circulated through the main headings, to an extent that will dilute and render harmless the noxious gases generated therein.

Section 9. When a place is likely to contain a dangerous accumulation of water or gases, the working, approaching such place, shall not exceed eight feet in width, and there shall be constantly kept, at a sufficient distance, not less than three yards in advance, at one bore-hole near the center of the working, and sufficient flank bore-holes on each side; and where two veins are worked in the same shaft, the upper shall be so protected that no danger will occur to the miners working in the lower vein.

Section 10. No owner or agent of any coal mine shall place in charge of any engine used for conveying into, or hoisting out of such mine persons employed therein, any but experienced, competent and sober engineers, and no engineer in charge of such engine shall allow any person, except such as may be deputed for that purpose by the owner or agent, to interfere with it, or any part of the machinery, and no person shall interfere, or in any way intimidate the engineer in the discharge of his duties, and in no case shall more than six (6) men ride on any cage or cart at one time, and no person shall ride upon a loaded cage or car when the same is being hoisted out of or being conveyed into the mine.

Section 11. The owner or agent of any coal mine, operated by shaft or slope, shall provide a sufficient cover overhead on all carriages and cages used for lowering or hoisting persons into and out of the mine, and on the top of every shaft an approved safety gate, also an approved safety spring on the top of every slope, and an adequate break shall be attached to every drum or machine used for lowering or raising persons into or out of all shafts or slopes, and also a proper indicator (in addition to any mark on the rope), which shows to the person who works the machine the position of the cage or load in the shaft, and there shall be cut in the side of every

hoisting shaft, at the bottom thereof, a traveling way, sufficiently high and wide to enable persons to pass the shaft in going from one side to the other, without passing over or under the cage or other hoisting apparatus.

Section 12. The owner or agent of every coal mine, shaft or slope, at the end of six months from the time this act takes effect, shall keep the top of every such shaft or slope, and the entrance thereof, securely fenced off by vertical or flat gates, covering and protecting the mouth of such shaft or slope, and the entrance of an abandoned shaft or slope shall be securely fenced off so that no injury can arise therefrom. The owner or agent, or either of them, violating the provisions of this section, shall be fined in any sum not exceeding one hundred dollars for each day or part of day the same is violated.

Section 13. Any miner, workman, or other person who shall knowingly injure or interfere with any safety lamp, air course, or with any brattice, or obstruct or throw open doors, or disturb any part of the machinery, or ride upon a loaded car or wagon in any shaft or slope, or do any act whereby the lives or health of the persons, or the security of the mines and machinery are endangered, every such person shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and, upon conviction, shall be fined in any sum not exceeding ten dollars.

Section 14. The mine inspector, miners employed and working in and about the mine, the owner of the land, or other person interested in the royalty or rental of such mine, shall at all proper times have full rights of access and examination of all scales, machinery or apparatus used in or about said mine, including the bank book in which the weight of coal is kept, to determine the amount of coal mined for the purpose of attesting the accuracy.

Section 15. In all coal mines in the State the miners and other persons employed and working in and about the mine, the owners of the land or other persons interested in the rental or royalty on the coal mined therein, shall have a lien on said mine, and all machinery and fixtures connected therewith, including scales, coal bank cars and everything used in and about the mine, for work and labor performed within two months; and the owner of the land, for royalty of the coal taken out from under his land, for any length of time not exceeding two months; and such liens shall be paramount to, and have priority over, all other liens, except the liens of State for taxes, and such liens shall have priority, as against each other, in the order in which they accrued, and for labor over that for royalty on coal. Any person to acquire such lien shall file in the recorder's office of the county (where) the coal mine is situated, within sixty days from the time the payment became due, his notice of his or her intention to hold a lien upon such property for the amount of his claim, and the name of the coal works, if known, or any other description describing the location of said mine; and the recorder shall record said notice, when presented, in a book used for recording mechanics' liens, for which the recorder shall receive a fee of twenty-five cents. Suits brought to enforce any lien herein created, shall be brought within one year of the date of filing said lien in the recorder's office, and all judgments rendered on the foreclosure of such liens shall include the amount of the claim found to be due, with the interest on the same from the time due, and with a reasonable attorney's fee, the judgment to be collected without relief from valuation, appraisement or stay laws. For all wages due the miner or other person working in or about the mine, shall be due and payable on the second Saturday of the month after the month in which the work was done, and all payments to be made in bankable funds of the State of Indiana.

Section 16. The rope used for hoisting and lowering, in every coal mine, shall be examined by some competent person every morning before the men descend into the

shaft, and when gas is known to exist, there shall be a competent fire boss, whose duty it shall be to examine each and every place in the mine before the men are permitted to enter and work, and the said fire boss shall be at the mouth or bottom of the mine each day to inform every man as to the state of his room or entry ; said works to be carefully examined every morning with a safety lamp, by a competent person, before any workmen are allowed to enter.

Section 17. Within thirty days after this act shall take effect, the Governor shall appoint a mine inspector, who shall hold office for four years, and until his successor shall be appointed and qualified. Said inspector shall be a resident of the State of Indiana, and a practical miner of not less than twelve years' experience, two of which shall have been in digging and mining coal in the State of Indiana, preceding his appointment, and no person shall be appointed who is, or may be, pecuniarily interested in any mine within this State, directly or indirectly. Said mine inspector, before entering upon the duties of his office, shall execute a bond with sufficient surety, payable to the State of Indiana, in the penal sum of ten thousand dollars, for the faithful discharge of the duties of his office, which bond shall be filed with and approved by the Secretary of State. He shall also take an oath of office.

Section 18. The mine inspector shall hold his office in some central part of the mining district, and for his services he shall receive the following fees : For inspecting each coal mine, a fee of five dollars for each inspection of said mine, to be paid by the owner of said mine; but not more than two inspections shall be had in any one year. Said fees to be collectable without relief from valuation laws, by fee bill issued by said inspector to the sheriff of the proper county.

Section 19. It shall be the duty of the mine inspector, appointed under this act, to enter, examine and inspect any and all coal mines and the works and machinery belonging thereto, at any reasonable time by day or by night, but so as not to hinder or obstruct the workings of such coal mines more than is reasonably necessary in the discharge of his duties, and the agent or owner of such coal mine is hereby required to furnish the necessary facilities for such entry, examination and inspection; and should the owner or agent fail or refuse to permit such inspection or furnish such facilities, the owner or agent, so failing, shall be deemed to have committed a misdemeanor, and it is hereby made the duty of such inspector to charge to such owner or agent of such violation, under oath, in any court of jurisdiction, and upon conviction, the owner or agent, or either or both, shall, upon conviction, be fined in any sum not exceeding one hundred dollars for each offense.

Section 20. The inspector appointed under this act, shall devote his entire time and attention to the duties of his office; he shall make personal inspection at least twice each year, of all coal mines in the State, and shall see that every precaution is taken to insure the health and safety of the workmen therein employed, and that the provisions and requirements of this act are faithfully carried out, and that the penalties of the law are enforced against all who willfully disobey its requirements; he shall also collect and tabulate the following facts : The number and thickness of each vein or strata of coal, and their respective depths below the surface, which are now worked or may be hereafter worked, the kind or quality of coal, how the same is mined, whether by shaft, slope or drift; the number of mines in operation in each county, and the owner thereof, and the number of men employed in each mine; and the aggregate yearly production of tons from each mine, together with an estimate of the amount of capital employed at each mine, and any other information relative to coal and mining he may deem necessary; all of which facts, so tabulated, together with a statement of the condition of mines as to safety and ventilation, he shall freely

set forth in an annual report to the Governor, together with his recommendation as to such other legislation on the subject of mining as he may think proper.

Section 21. No boy under fourteen years of age shall be employed to work in any of the mines in the State.

Section 22. Any person violating any of the provisions of this act, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and, upon conviction thereof, shall be fined in any sum not exceeding five hundred dollars for each offense.

Section 23. Whereas, there is no law now upon the subject of ventilation, and there is therefore an emergency for this act taking effect; therefore, the same shall be in force from and after the first day of May, 1879.

#### CONCLUSION.

The proverb is not less true than trite that "an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure," and while the principle is recognized that trickery in trade is essential to success in business, the timely exposure of the evils incident to our mining and other industrial pursuits makes it barely possible that they will reach the magnitude attained by similar evils in the older States. Popular vigilance and general advancement in intelligence will bring its influence to bear upon the law-making power, and an effectual check will thus be given to any attempt at oppression or imposition by one class of citizens on another. The idea once fairly and thoroughly grasped by the citizen that it is the duty of the State to look after the well-being of the adult equally with that of the child, the future statesman will see that there shall exist no such grounds for complaint as that expressed by the coal miners of this State. True views of statesmanship long ago declared that "education is the cheap defense of nations," and we shall not come up to Jefferson's ideal of "a wise and frugal government," until there shall be a reading room and library within easy reach of all, and laws to protect every citizen whose labor contributes to the wealth and prosperity of the State. Intelligent, virtuous and industrious citizens, not gatling guns, are the best protectors of social order.

## Lead Mining.

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Next to coal and iron, lead is one of the principal minerals in the State; the mines have been profitably worked for many years, and although thousands of tons of ore have been taken out of some mines, as yet there are no indications of their being exhausted. While probably the most extensive mining is done at Joplin, Bonne Terre, Versailles and Mine La Motte, there are altogether some sixty firms engaged in mining lead in thirty-nine different localities in the State, giving employment to thousands of miners.

We visited the lead mines of Joplin, Webb City, Oronogo, Mine LaMotte and Bonne Terre, and found that at the three places first named, the miners, as a rule, are not properly in the employ of the companies, but lease lots 200 feet square from the companies, and sink shafts, bearing their own expenses, or in partnership with some one who is able to furnish a "grub stake," as it is called. Working on company lands they are compelled to turn in the ore when cleaned, at an arbitrary figure, usually \$25.00 per thousand pounds when pig led is seven cents per pound in St. Louis; also paying pump rent extra where the land is drained by the owners or companies, amounting from \$1.50 to \$2.00 per thousand pounds. This figure, when pig lead is down to 4½ (as at present, November, 1880,) gives the companies and land owners, including 10 per cent. royalty, fully fifty per cent. profit clear, leaving a very precarious living to the miners, who have to bear all the losses of accident or delay in drainage, or re-prospecting when the ore body is lost or worked out.

The matter of ventilation is feebly accomplished in some instances by blowers worked on top by hand or horse power, and some times attached to the draining engine, but still a life is occasionally lost by a too hasty descent into shafts where carbonic acid has collected, and many miners suffer from the effects of smoke or gases, produced by

the application of dynamite, producing violent cephalalgy and nervous prostration. This can only be remedied by a thorough expulsion of the gases before entering the mines.

The caving of rotten ground or badly timbered mines causes many accidents, some of them from criminal carelessness of the mine owners, or recklessness on the part of the employes. As machinery improves these accidents have somewhat decreased in frequency, but still enough occur to indicate that our system of mining is far from having attained that degree of safety which a strict discipline would insure, and any law that could effectually secure the safety of the life of one man and thus insure his protecting care to one family, would not be labor spent in vain.

The lead ore at Joplin, Granby, Webb City and Oronogo, lies at an average depth of one hundred feet below the surface, and the average cost of sinking a shaft is given at about \$5.00 per foot. Few miners having this sum of money at their command—while working for wages in day time—club together and sink a shaft by working four and five hours every night until the work is accomplished, and thus, by hard work, they try to better their condition.

The "mining contract" the miners enter into with the companies, locally known as "jug handles," because the risk is all on the miner's side, is as follows:

#### MINING CONTRACT.

No. \_\_\_\_\_.

It is hereby agreed, by and between \_\_\_\_\_, as party of the first part, and \_\_\_\_\_, as part— of the second part, as follows:

1st. That the said party of the first part hereby employs the said part— of the second part to mine for lead and zinc ores on the following described lot of land (Here follows a description of the land to be mined, and where located—Bureau), at \_\_\_\_\_, Missouri, upon and subject to the following terms, conditions and requirements:

1st. Said part— of the second part shall mine said land at all times in good workmanlike manner, and continuously during the continuance of this contract—[Provided, That work may be suspended on account of unavoidable accident or sickness of said part— of the second part for a period not exceeding ten days without written permission.] And it is further agreed by both parties that working on said lot for a short period nearing the termination, or suspension of ten days, for the purpose of holding said lot, is not the meaning of this contract, and will not prevent a forfeiture. Said lot must be worked in good faith.

2d. The said part— of the second part shall deliver all the lead ore and zinc ore to said party of the first part at the shaft where raised, or at the place where washed on the lands of the said party of the first part.

Said party of the first part hereby agrees to pay to said part— of the second part, as full compensation for mining, raising and cleaning said ore, as follows, to wit: For lead ore, the sum of twenty-five dollars for each one thousand pounds of first class mineral so raised and delivered, when the market price of pig lead in St. Louis is seven cents per pound, and a proportionate sum as said market price in St. Louis shall vary from seven cents, and a proportionate sum for inferior mineral, according to quality. Zinc ore, the cash market price therefor in Joplin, less —— thereof, which shall be retained by said party of the first part.

It is agreed that there shall be deducted from the sum due said part— of the second part, three dollars per thousand pounds for lead ore raised from ground drained by said party of the first part, as compensation for such drainage.

It is agreed that should said party of the first part refuse to pay to said part— of the second part the said market price for zinc ore, less ——, then said party of the first part shall, upon payment to him of said ——, in money or zinc ore, give written permission to remove said zinc ore from said land and dispose of the same.

It is expressly agreed that no interest in land or ore is hereby granted or conveyed, and that the only relation existing or hereby created between the party of the first part and the said part— of the second part, is that of employer and employee; and if said part— of the second part shall not mine said land in the manner heretofore provided, or if work shall be suspended thereon (except as herein excepted), or if said part— of the second part shall deliver any of said lead ore or zinc ore to any person other than said party of the first part, or if any lead ore or zinc ore shall be removed from said mining —— by any person other than said party of the first part without written permission as aforesaid, or should said part— of the second part in any respect fail to comply with any stipulation herein contained, then and in each of said events this agreement shall thereby become void, and all rights of said part— of the second part shall thereby cease, and said party of the first part may take immediate possession of said land and all shafts therein, without notice to quit, demand of possession or any legal proceedings whatever.

This agreement shall not be assigned without the consent, in writing, of the said party of the first part.

The said party of the first part, his superintendent and agents, shall have at all times the right to occupy and use said lands for all purposes not inconsistent with the provisions of this contract, and go and remain upon said lands, at all times to inspect said lands and to see that this contract is complied with.

Subject to the above conditions this contract shall remain in force until the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, A. D. 18\_\_\_\_.

In witness whereof the parties hereto have set their respective hands this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, A. D. 18\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_, [SEAL.]  
\_\_\_\_\_, [SEAL.]  
\_\_\_\_\_, [SEAL.]  
\_\_\_\_\_, [SEAL.]  
\_\_\_\_\_, [SEAL.]

The above "contract" is a fair sample of all the lead mining contracts in Southwest Missouri, and, as the miners claim, a one-sided instrument.

It is further claimed by the miner that a certain company at Joplin has, in several instances in the past, when the miners struck lead in large quantities, used all kinds of *trickery* to find some flaw in the contract by which the miner forfeited his claim. This and other obstacles, such as high royalties, excessive pump rent, loss of time, occasioned by the company's not keeping the water out of the mines, has materially hindered the miners from making any material headway.

The miners claim that if a law was enacted to prevent extortion in the matter of "royalties or rents," as they deem such extortion a species of usury, charging the men fifty per centum for the use of their hands as capital, while the miners bear all the expenses, and are deducted out of their earnings by "cut throat" forfeit claims in the mining leases, and are not allowed to sell the products of their labor to the highest bidder, are forced to await the market rise as given in the newspapers, which are held back and reported P. T. (private terms), long after the price has risen. But it no sooner falls than companies are informed by telegraph, and the price falls immediately; an unjust discrimination, working a loss of many thousand dollars per annum to the miners.

Another form of unjust discrimination is in grading, sometimes in sight, and which the men would rather bear the loss of than be involved in tedious litigation, subject to injunctions where they are unable to give bonds, and of course are thrown out of employment. It is urged by the miners that if the rates on railroads may be regulated by statutory provision, if usury laws can be enforced, why not laws to

prevent extortions in the matter of royalties or per centage for the privilege of mining on claims where the miner puts in his labor as a part of the capital in the investment?

Ten or fifteen per centum, it is argued by the miners, with the privilege to sell to the highest bidder, a product to which the miner most certainly acquires a vested title by reason of his labor in raising, is certainly a sufficient profit on the investment, and if the land owner or company can make more by hiring their labor by the day and bearing all the losses, they certainly have that option.

In Southeast Missouri the miners, as far as could be ascertained by the Bureau, are mostly employed by the day, and a few working by the square yard, the lead being principally found in solid rock.

#### LEAD MINERS' HOMES.

The homes of miners in the lead districts are, in many cases, the same as those of the miners in the coal regions—poor, dilapidated shanties.

In Southwest Missouri the miners build their own houses, and, as a general rule, on company grounds; live, ground rent free; only one case came under the observation of the Bureau where the company charged "one cent" per month for ground rent when the miner works on the company's land, and one dollar per month if he works for another firm. This company also compels the miners to sign a contract, giving them power to remove them from the premises after ten days' notice.

In Southeast Missouri one dollar is charged, as a rule, for ground rent, where the miner puts up his own house, and from \$2.00 to \$4.00 where the house belongs to the company, while in a few instances the companies furnish houses (such as they are), rent free, to their employes.

#### IRON MINING.

A visit was paid to Iron Mountain and Pilot Knob in the fall of 1879. While the mines were worked in both places, they were not running full force. The crisis in the iron trade from 1873 to 1878 compelled the Iron Mountain Company to employ but a small force, and the Pilot Knob Iron Company to suspend operations for several years, there being no profits whatever in the business.

The employes of the Iron Mountain Company live in the company's houses, rent free, with the privilege of small garden plots. The houses are in better condition than those usually found in mining camps. A few boys were found employed as mule drivers to haul back

empty cars that are run down an inclined railway loaded with ore. Public schools are open on an average eight months in the year. Outside of low wages the miners complain of "long pays;" that is, the company makes a full settlement in cash every three months, but allows the men to draw one-half cash and one-half in due bills every week, good for merchandise at company's store. The men say that the company charges from 10 to 30 per cent. more for the same article than it can be bought for elsewhere.

At Pilot Knob many of the miners also live in company houses, rent free; nearly all have a small piece of ground fenced for garden purposes. The houses are not in as good condition as those at Iron Mountain, probably on account of the mines being idle since 1873. A few small boys were employed to carry drills and other tools, and act as general helpers. Public schools are open an average of ten months in the year.

In regard to other localities where iron is mined in the State, the Bureau had no opportunity to visit them. But from correspondence with miners, it was ascertained that their condition is about the same as those alluded to above.



PAGE

## SANITARY CONDITION OF

AND DISEASES

IN AND OUT-



## Sanitary Condition.

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### CIGARMAKERS.

As a rule, cigar shops are badly ventilated. In 73 returns 16 only report ventilation good, the others, in most cases, report "very bad," "horrible," "sickening," etc. In Kansas City one shop is over a boarding house kitchen, where the smell of cookery disgusts the workmen. The most prevalent disease is consumption, from tobacco dust and close confinement. This statement is supported by every return except three. The working of the tobacco induces such diseases as catarrh, bronchitis, lung and throat troubles. Nervous and general debility is also a common complaint among cigarmakers. The continuous strain at one and the same work, hour after hour, automaton-like, and the rapidity of the movement of the hands and the excitement of the work causes nervous diseases. The tobacco dust injuriously affects the eyes. Better ventilation, shorter hours, out-door exercise, plenty of fresh air, larger work rooms are the remedies proposed by the men to abolish the evils named above. Wash rooms are an exception.

A return from St. Louis says :

The general condition of workshops in which cigarmakers are compelled to work in, is a very unhealthful one most employers, seeming to think that any place is good enough for a cigarmaker. Good sanitary laws are needed above anything else, and they should be rigidly enforced.

### TOBACCONISTS.

Three report their shops as bad; one does not work enough in the week, for want of work, to have it hurt him. The inhaling of dust and high temperature in some rooms is very injurious to the health.

The Bureau visited the leading tobacco factories in St. Louis, and while some were in a fair condition, others were found where children from 9 to 15 years of age were closeted in rooms stemming tobacco in a

temperature of 80 to 83 degrees, and every window closed. Extra rooms for female help to change clothing were found in every factory.

#### PRINTERS.

One return from Kansas City says: "The building is very bad, liable to tumble down at any moment, ought to be condemned." Another says: "Close confinement and strong odors of printers' ink cause impaired health. Nearly all agree that the want of proper ventilation and the inhaling of dust from cases and wearing of metal, aids to produce consumption and lead colic. Very few have rooms set apart to wash or change clothing.

#### TAILORS.

Generally, the sanitary condition of shops is fair, except in winter, when the pressing with hot irons makes the room very uncomfortable. Some back shops are reported as dirty. Consumption, dyspepsia, lung and liver diseases prevail in the trade, from excessive sitting and confinement of long hours of labor.

#### COOPERS.

Five employes report their shops in a bad and unclean condition, the others good or fair. The men complain of dust as affecting them and bringing on lung disease. The trade is hard on the chest, and piles are very common among the coopers.

#### FLOUR MILLS.

Flour mills are generally well ventilated. The work is reported as very dusty, and that millers are affected more or less with catarrh.

#### FURNITURE.

This trade is reported as being healthy, with the exception of the varnishing, which is very unhealthy on account of the confinement of employes in close rooms. One furniture factory in North St. Louis, employing 140 men, is reported as in bad condition.

#### HARNESSMAKERS.

One establishment, employing 78 men, is reported in bad condition; another, employing 25 men, reports not very good, and another, with 100 men, reported in bad condition. Consumption and lung dis-

ease are the effects of night work and constant sitting. One firm with 183 persons, has a wash room, but none for a change of clothing. Health of employes, as a general thing, is good.

#### IRON WORKS.

The health of employes in this trade is generally good. An iron works at Midland, and a wire works, stove works, and boiler shop at St. Louis, are reported as having rooms set apart for washing and dressing.

#### IRON MINES.

Rheumatism and piles are reported as very frequent among the miners at Iron Mountain. Mine sickness and lung disease at Pilot Knob. The latter disease is contracted from inhaling the smoke from lamps and powder, which is caused by improper ventilation. The need of an "air compressor," at Pilot Knob, is strongly recommended.

#### STOVE FOUNDRIES.

Moulders are affected by dampness of their clothing from sweating, and no chance of changing their clothing after their day's labor. Lung disease and rheumatism are very prevalent in the trade, and burns from hot iron are frequent. Stove mounters are blinded from sparks of emery wheels. Chippers' eyes are affected by strain. Condition of shops generally fair.

#### MACHINISTS.

This trade is dangerous to life and limb on account of the close proximity of machinery; the turning of brass is unhealthy and lathe work dangerous. Dust from emery wheels is unhealthy; sanitary condition of shops reported fair. No rooms set apart for change of clothing.

#### ENGINEERS.

This occupation is reported healthy; although a great many engineers are stationed in mere sheds, and while sweating, they are often exposed to draught and sudden changes of atmosphere, which produces rheumatism and kindred diseases.

**CARPENTERS.**

As a general thing carpenters are employed out doors, and the occupation is considered healthy. All that may be considered injurious to health is the dust in tearing down old rubbish in buildings, and the continual stooping. In many respects the occupation is very dangerous from climbing buildings and standing on scaffolding only too often unsafe for use.

**PLANING MILLS.**

Notwithstanding the dust and dirt in these mills, the general health of employes is reported good. Only in two places are conveniences provided for employes to wash and change their clothing after the day's labor.

**BUILDERS.**

While the general health of employes is reported good, yet, as one employer states, this occupation "is hard on the lungs, in consequence of dust and exposure, and strain on breast." In many cases the men are exposed to extreme perils from unsound planks and rotten ropes in scaffolds. Numerous are the accidents that happen daily from simple neglect to provide the proper appliances.

**PAINTERS.**

The painter's trade is very unhealthy, from the use of lead and the constant smell of turpentine. The disease known as "painter's colic" makes fearful ravages in the trade; men are stiffened in the joints, paralyzed in the limbs; the kidneys are infected and the whole system disordered. Lead colic is reported by all the returns, and, as a remedy, one proposes to "take olive oil once a month;" another says, "drink sweet milk and bathe frequently, at least twice a week, and keep the liver well regulated;" another says, "drink freely of vinegar or linseed oil." Working on ladders and scaffolds, very often unfit for use, place the men of this trade in continual jeopardy of life and limb, and many are the accidents reported through the daily press that could be avoided by the exercise of more regard for the men's lives, and by providing proper safe-guards for their protection.

**BRICKLAYERS.**

Generally, the health of bricklayers is good; the only danger is peril to life and limb on unsafe scaffolds, and liability to sun strokes.

One bricklayer at Bonne Terre complains of the susceptibility to lead poison from inhaling smoke at the lead furnaces, St. Joseph mines, and from drinking the water of the region which is impregnated with lead.

#### PLASTERERS.

Every one of the returns complain of rheumatism as a disease affecting plasterers; it is caused by overheating at work. The dampness of the lime affects the hands and makes them sore, and from the position of their bodies while at work the eye-sight, at times, is dimmed. Added to this there are frequent accidents, such as falls from scaffolds, produced by bad timber used in their construction.

#### COAL MINERS.

Asthma greatly troubles the miners by inhaling impure air. (See coal mining.)

#### RAILROADS.

Locomotive engineers report that their occupation is hard on the lungs, eye-sight and the nervous system, which could be avoided by running less number of miles per day. They say that when business is good, engineers are run too hard, and many are made sick by such long runs. When business is slack they do not make full time. The companies only pay for the time an engineer works, and some keep one-third more men than they need, to keep down the others. It does not cost them any more, as they pay by the trip. Engineers running passenger trains get in full time usually, but have to run a great number of miles per day. 717—*Locomotive engineer* reports consumption, kidney, liver and nervous diseases in the trade, and says: “The diseases incidental to the profession of locomotive engineers could be lessened, I think, by 50 or 75 per cent. less than at present, by railroad companies reducing the number of miles run and hours devoted to labor. It often occurs that an engineer gets no more than 14 hours out of 36 for rest and sleep, and are often on their engine 22 hours at a time without rest. It is not only the case with the engineers, but firemen, brakemen and conductors also.” 20—*Moberly. Carpenter*, St. L., K. C. & N. R. R., complains of “malarial neighborhood and bad ventilation in car shop.” 1478—*St. Joseph. Boiler Maker* reports “rheumatism from overheated shops.” 614—*Moberly. Machinist*: “Shop in poor condition; in winter the wind drives the snow through the crevices of the building, covering the lathe to a depth of

two inches." 818—*Car repairer*: "Rheumatism from getting wet and sitting under cars repairing." 875—Same trade: "Dangerous from jacks giving way and car falling down." 448—*Switchman*, on St. L., K. C. & N. R. R., earns \$5.60 per week, reports "chills and fever for want of warm clothing and means to provide for medical care." 454—*Switchman*, says: "Railroad companies favor cheap labor, no matter whether competent or not, and often the case is, they do not hire enough men to make the road safe." This statement is supported by return 474, who says: "One man has to do the work of two." Rheumatism is very common amongst the men by reason of exposure to all kinds of weather.

#### LEAD WORKS.

The sanitary condition of lead works is generally bad, and the business very unhealthy. Lead colic, stiffening of joints and paralysis are common ailments. 181—*Laborer* in lead works, says: "I am weakening in strength, and never will be the same man again. When I came here three years ago, I weighed 170 pounds; now I weigh only 145. During that time I had to stop work three different times; was sick with lead colic. This is the result with all that work in lead works. Something should be done for us by the employers in the business—to at least care for us while sick."

#### LEAD MINES AND SMELTING FURNACES.

The reports received from employes in the lead mines and furnaces all agree that the business is unhealthy, and especially so in and around the smelting furnaces. Complaints are made that the smoke stacks are not sufficiently high to carry off the poisonous vapor set free in the smelting of lead. The men claim that the smoke of the furnace poisons the air they breathe, and brings on lead colic; destroys garden truck, and that hogs and cattle drinking the water in ponds impregnated with the poison, die from its effects. The following extracts from returns and correspondence are given to show the extent of the evil:

*Return 1704—Joplin.*—We are troubled with poisonous smoke, the result of low smoke stacks. Better ventilation is needed.

*Return 1016—Mine LaMotte.*—Our work is very unhealthy by reason of inhaling lead poison.

*Return 1116—Bonne Terre.*—In the furnaces connected with the works, great inconvenience and much sickness is caused by the smoke, which could be avoided by compelling the company to erect higher smoke stacks to convey the poisonous smoke away from the works.

*Return 1105—Bonne Terre.*—The sanitary condition of the calcine furnaces is bad. The company should be compelled, by law, to erect smoke stacks sufficiently high to

convey the smoke above the works. The way in which they are built at present causes much sickness among all classes.

*Return 1219.*—I have been sick for several months with lead colic, caused by low smoke stacks.

*Return 1108.*—As to the disease (mine sickness) most prevalent here, it could be avoided by erecting higher smoke stacks to carry off the smoke and poisonous air.

A correspondent from Mine La Motte writes to the Bureau as follows:

What makes the work so unhealthy in the calcine furnace is the lead poison and not the sulphur. We inhale the poison from the smoke; the smoke stacks are only about 30 feet high, when they should be 100 feet.

Another correspondent from Bonne Terre says:

The smoke stacks at the smelting furnace are about 35 feet high, when they ought to be at least 75 feet. They being so low causes the smoke to fall to the ground, and its poisonous effect has killed all the garden truck. It has also killed hogs, on account of their feeding on the ground which is impregnated with the poison from the smelting furnace. The smoke affects our lungs, and the doctors call it lead poison.

With the above evidence before us, the Bureau decided to sift the matter more closely and if possible obtain an authoritative statement as to the real facts in the case.

The following communication referring to the evil above complained of was received by the Bureau, in answer to a letter addressed to an eminent physician residing in one of the lead districts in this State; he says:

"Your favor of the — inst. received and contents noted. In regard to the poisonous effects of the smoke from the lead furnaces upon the men employed about them, I attribute it in a great measure due to the fact that the stacks are not sufficiently high for the wind to carry the smoke away from the men, and the oxidized lead, free in the air they breathe, produces 'colica pictonum' or lead colic. The majority of furnaces in the country, and all at this place, are built in low places so as to secure a supply of water with which to dress the ore and to supply the boilers, and the result is, with the low stacks, in many instances they not being over 30 feet high, all feel the effect to a greater or less degree, and the deleterious result is, if not to produce lead colic, to so derange the abdominal organs as to cause nearly every case of ordinary fever to assume an enteric or typhoid form, and to be very difficult to manage. I do not believe that it is a fact that the fish are killed by the water from the dressing works running into the streams, for water used by the — company runs back into their reservoir, after being used, and yet some varieties of fish, notably the perch, seem to do well in it. The animals that die do not seem to do so from drinking the water but from effects of the smoke, but as I have never examined the abdominal *visera* of any that have died, I cannot say what pathological conditions exist. Cattle and dogs suffer most. The furnaces now in use here are not the old-fashioned 'reverberating' ones, but are denominated 'calcine' and 'slag.' The ore, after being dressed, is roasted or calcined, and converted into a kind of slag; it is then taken to the slag furnace where it is smelted and cast into pigs, and at the time of 'drawing' the charge, the poisonous gases filling the air in and around the furnace is almost stifling, and

could all be carried away if stacks, particulary of the slag furnaces, were made higher. It is very difficult to get men to work in the furnaces of the \_\_\_\_\_ company which has entirely the kind mentioned above, as they dread an attack of what they term 'mine sickness,' and know they will be attacked if they work there, and I know of but two methods of obviating the difficulty: First, build the stacks higher; and, secondly, let all who work in the smoke use sulphuric acid, which will convert the lead into sulphate, which is both insoluble and inert. I think a committee should be appointed to examine into this matter as it is of vital importance."

In response to the Bureau's request, Dr. S. C. Price, of Joplin, a physician of high standing, contributes the following chapter of the report on the sanitary condition of the lead mines at Joplin and its immediate vicinity, he says:

Some of the diseases, or probably more properly speaking, some of the complications indigenous to the immediate locality of the lead mines of the Joplin region, are due to the chemical effects of the water; the surface lodes or deposits are much oxydized, as indicated by the white coating of oxydized particles, which can be shaken off, when dry, like ashes. This is probably changed largely into the carbonate, for we find many crystalized masses from the drippings of water through these ore bodies after the form of stalagmites, clearly indicating that the water veins underground must contain a greater or less impregnation of these salts. As a result we find many of the symptoms present, which usually occur from the ingestion of lead salts, to wit: (a) Constipation, which is general, and as a complication of all diseases, requires the exhibition of increased quantities of cathartics, the doses for children, say of five to eight years, requiring as much as for adults ordinarily in other localities. (b) Our colics are more prolonged and severe than otherwise, ranging all the way from slight bilious symptoms to severe lead spasm. (c) All forms of neuralgias, facial, ovarian, intestinal, muscular, etc., have a persistency and greater intensity, are more prolonged, require more medication, and are more liable to relapse on slight provocations than usual. (d) In the treatment of other forms of neuroses, notably epilepsy and epileptoid attacks, there is a persistency or resistance to medicaments looking to the control of spasm that indicates what I have long thought to be the presence in the tissues implicated, of sufficient quantities of the poison to augment, to a considerable degree, the force and persistency of the symptoms; hence, I have in several cases urged a removal to some distance from the immediate locality where the water is liable to be impregnated by drainage from ore bodies, and as a result, I have seen the excitability of organs affected by nervous irritability, also the general sympathetic system, similarly affected, rapidly improve under the same treatment and otherwise similar hygienic surroundings, and go on to permanent

convalescence where it had been, previous to removal, almost hopeless.  
e) In the ordinary symptomatology of summer complaints of children, even to the age of five years, we may see the same increase in the irritability of the whole intestinal mucus tract with a like augmentation of the persistency before spoken of which I have concluded was, in part, a mechanical or topical irritation from the minute particles of the ore or salts of lead suspended or held in solution in the water necessarily ingested in the food or drink; still, those symptoms may have been from the same irritability of the terminal nervous filaments distributed to the mucus surfaces implicated, as spoken of in "d." I have frequently made the same recommendations, as before mentioned, and although the removal was only for a few miles to a locality where the ground surrounding the drainage had not been disturbed by mining operations, the change was beneficial and the recovery prompt and decided.

Under this heading, I may include a like effect upon the urinal mucus tract embracing symptoms of increased desire of, and painful micturition, but decreased quantity voided as a rule. This symptom prevailing almost as largely as that of constipation, affecting females mostly when there was slight prevailing irritation of any of the genitourinary organs, as during the menses, during pregnancy, or following parturition, and where the symptoms were aggravated sufficiently to indicate the presence of some special or local irritant, sometimes producing haematuria or purulent cystitis, with often an aggravated pruritis which was borne for months, and even years, without treatment, and which, but for a wonderful *vis medicatrix naturae*, or constant effort to repair, would have ended disastrously in diabetes or perhaps Bright's disease of the kidneys.

In the early days of this city (Joplin), when the water used was collected from shallow pools or shafts sunk a few feet and abandoned, there were many more cases of genuine lead colic than now, with the characteristic blue line of the gum well marked—as the mines are now better drained, the lodes deeper, less oxydized, the surface is less disturbed than formerly, and the water used is pumped from deep draining shafts and does not stand over the deposits, but runs through deeper and more regular veins or channels; the improvement has been marked and continuous. I have seen the water in the barrels (the water for family use in Joplin is mostly brought from the outskirts of the city and sold at ten cents per barrel; these water barrels, in many cases, stand on the sidewalk and are often without a covering, and are subject to all the filth that may fall into them—Bureau.) for family use so concentrated by gradual freezing of the deposited sedi-

ment in the bottom, used after a thaw, with the effect of bringing nearly the whole family down with lead colic, and on the advent of one case, under like circumstances, there would be dozens developed immediately following within a day or two.

Happily, many of the citizens of Joplin have now added to other good improvements, cisterns with filters, giving marked benefit but not entirely obviating the prevailing symptom—constipation. This, by some, is attributed to the effect of gases or smoke from the furnaces or reduction works. To what extent these may influence the health of residents somewhat distant, I have not been able to form a definite opinion; however, I have seen persons taken with colic and other symptoms, notably those liable to be produced upon irritable bronchial and pulmonary mucus tracts, immediately following damp days when the smoke was precipitated to the ground and enveloped the dwellings near by, for whole days at a time; but to say that enough of the sublimed metal is carried to any distance, say a quarter of a mile, and inhaled by the people in sufficient quantities to produce symptoms other than mucus irritation, is a question that will perhaps require more investigation, and we will leave it for the present *sub judice*.

But that there are deposits thrown out of the chimneys and falling in the immediate vicinity of the works sufficiently acrid to destroy vegetation cannot be denied, but this effect is probably due to sulphurous acid; however, it is quite common to see dogs, cats, and even cattle having "fits" or other symptoms of poison, supposed to be due to drinking the water of these localities. And when it is certain that the best water we are able to get for drinking purposes comes from districts where there are occasional deposits of conglomerate, containing the salts of lead, zinc, and perhaps antimony, with sulphur and free acids, especially the *sulphuric*, in large quantities mixed with the clay, so that when opened and exposed to the air, deliquescence or slaking supervenes, producing so much heat that the workmen are driven out for days, it becomes absolutely necessary that some other plan of supply must be devised for the health and proper hygienic condition of our what would otherwise be a healthy city.

Now we come to the consideration of hygienic measures best calculated to promote the health of those who, while conducting to the vast wealth and commercial resources of our State, more, perhaps, than any other class of her citizens are more exposed to the vicissitudes of accidents and disease; are cared for and protected less from these and other deleterious influences, not only by themselves, but the State, than any class within her borders, and while the miners perhaps enjoy life better here than in any other country, it is still true that they work

harder, more hours per day, and fare coarser, are on greater mental strain, and see less of the bright side of life than any other class of our citizens, working often from choice for months a shrift and a half, from fifteen to eighteen hours a day, "*to get a little ahead,*" where the air is mixed with lamp smoke and carbonic acid gas, and where "no ray of sunlight ever more is found down in the lead mine underneath the ground."

The first—and I deem it the most important improvement of all of a hygienic character—is a sufficient supply of good, pure water, doing away with the warm, stale, filthy barrel water, which, to say nothing of cost, will, besides relieving the poor as well as the rich from the danger of lead poison, *wash us clean*, something comparatively unknown to those used to "hard" water. This is about to be accomplished by bringing the water by force pumps from Shoal Creek, about  $4\frac{1}{2}$  miles, through pipes.

The next great desideratum is the necessity of strict rules and regulations in and around the reduction works, under the direction of competent men, who will see that they are strictly enforced. Companies, as a rule, are too much concerned about their profits to attend to the health of their employes, and if one man gets sick from exposure or gross carelessness, or ignorance, they easily supply his place, although he may have become so filled with the poison as to pay the penalty, sooner or later, with his life. The common protection of sponges to keep the dust and fumes out of the nose and mouth are not sufficient; and while they keep out the dust to some extent, they also keep out the pure air and prevent perfect exhalation of carbonic acid, a continuation of which for even an hour must have a deleterious effect on the system. These should be replaced by an apparatus which, while it prevents the influx of gas or particles, will also permit free egress to the products of retrograde metamorphosis. Then there are simply no means used to prevent absorption of lead which is possible by the skin, both in the sublimed state from the moulten lead and in the form of an impalpable powder. The use of lard, castor oil, or other unctuous substances to the face, hands or other uncovered parts, would help to reduce the quantity to a minimum.

Then I have known the men to drink out of cups exposed to the dust and particles of white lead or smither falling around, and eat their dinners without washing or dusting off their clothes, in and around the works, all tending to increase the amount of poison taken into the system, and once in there it is slow to be thrown off, but lies there until either absorbed and carried off after being dissolved in the acids of the

system or become a local irritant to the tissues with which it comes in contact.

Any company permitting such irregularities or gross neglect should be held responsible for the health or lives of their employes. I have seen men working day after day over the refining pots, without the protection of even a common sponge, and one after another coming down with different forms of lead diseases, and on inquiry not one of them knew or had the slightest intimation that lead could be sublimed and inhaled in large quantities, in the form of a gas.

The effects attributed to the metal being carried off in the smoke has lately been largely prevented by the erection of white lead works in addition to the smelting process, to consume the smoke and convert its surplus waste into white lead by our largest company of operators.

The process is a success, and it has been estimated that nearly one-half the weight of smoke has been recovered in the form of the carbonate. They have spared no cost to make their works convenient and tenable for their operatives, but lack much yet in the way of strict hygienic regulations. It is to be hoped that the other works here, *and elsewhere,\** will wheel into line and do as much to render the air of our city healthy in every respect.

The hygienic condition of those working underground might be greatly improved had they the means to do so, but commencing to prospect as they do on a few dollars or a week's credit, they must necessarily begin in a very primitive method with few even of the necessities of life and fewer of the conveniences of protection, working for many hours in a warm, close atmosphere, dripping with perspiration, they are drawn to the top where a change of temperature of perhaps 20 or 30 degrees strikes them, they go home scantily clothed, and what wonder that many take cold and are brought to death's door by that scourge, pneumonia or its confreres. I have often wondered at the power of resistance and recuperation, when I have seen so much exposure, and the only wonder seems to be that there is not more sickness in a community made up largely of the class under consideration.

These observations I have culled from an experience of nine years in this locality, and have only given such as occurred to me to be outside the routine of diseases incident to places other than lead districts. After all, we must conclude, notwithstanding the exposure to disease and incidents above enumerated, that with a population of nearly eight thousand souls within the corporate limits of Joplin, not including many mining camps immediately surrounding, we have quite a healthy community, comparatively, as instanced by the report of the city

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\* Italics are ours.—BUREAU.

physician for the past year ending October 1. Out of 288 patients treated at public expense, there were eight deaths, or less than three per cent.

The above chapter, from the best information the Bureau could obtain, applies to many other lead mining camps in the State, and any law that will tend to remove the evils complained of would be hailed with joy by this large class of useful and industrious citizens, and no effort should be spared by our legislators to find an effectual remedy. The smoke nuisance and poisonous fumes from furnaces and factories being productive of great and widespread public discomfort and inconvenience, have in older countries been abated by special legislation, and those engaged in such industries compelled to built stacks and chimneys of sufficient height to relieve the public of the inconvenience.

#### MISCELLANEOUS.

*Quarrymen*.—Dangerous on account of blasting and falling stone; rheumatism prevails to a large extent in this trade. *Janitors*.—Pulmonary diseases from dust in sweeping. *File grinders*.—Breastache, piles and headache, are reported as prevalent in this trade. *Teamsters*.—Exposure to all kinds of weather brings on sickness of every type. *Shoe cutters*.—Asthma is reported in this trade, caused by the stooping position of the body while at labor. *Marble cutters*.—Catarrh and lung diseases from inhaling marble dust. *Pork packers*.—Rheumatism from dampness in cellars. One return says: "We do not earn enough money to buy waterproof garments and sufficient clothing to keep us from getting sick." *Wire workers*.—Business very unhealthy from sudden transition from hot to cold temperature and sweaty clothing.



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PART VII.

CHILD LABOR

AND

THE APPRENTICE SYSTEM

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## CHILD LABOR.

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In the train of evils ingrafted into the labor system of this country the employment of children in factories and mines stand first in enormity. With the ability to produce, with the aid of machinery, as much in one day as will furnish the necessaries and luxuries for six; the employment of children to the deprivation of adult labor, is without excuse or justification. When a citizen has devoted the most important years of his life in acquiring a practical knowledge of some useful and wealth-producing occupation, and finds himself, before he has reached his prime, supplanted by his own or another's child, through the introduction of some new device or improvement in machinery, it is no wonder that hundreds finding their labor displaced by child labor, should look upon the introduction of machinery as a curse, rather than a blessing.

Blinded by self-interest in the mad race for wealth, the injustice to the man, and the atrocious cruelty to the child, are alike disregarded. Taking this view of the question, the Commissioner, in the second annual report of the Ohio Labor Bureau, says:

"What a commentary on our civilization is child labor. The most savage, the most ignorant, the most brutal of uncivilized tribes living in the wilds of Africa, or that did live in the United States two hundred years ago, would not, and did not, force a child of ten or twelve years old to not only labor for its own support, but to support its elders, yet in this age of labor-saving machinery the child must labor that its parents may live even in squalor and want."

The following table, compiled from the returns furnished the Bureau, will show the number of children and youth, under and over fourteen years of age, employed in one hundred and thirty-three establishments and in the various occupations designated :

TABLE XIX.—YOUNG PERSONS EMPLOYED.

Business.	Number of establishments.	Over 14 years.		Under 14 years.		Total.	Hours of labor per week.
		Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.		
Artificial Flowers.....	1	.....	12	.....	.....	12	60
Blacksmiths.....	1	1	.....	.....	.....	1	60
Boots and Shoes.....	4	8	17	1	.....	26	58
Breweries.....	1	1	.....	.....	.....	1	60
Brooms and Brushes.....	6	17	.....	5	.....	22	54
Carpenters.....	4	4	.....	.....	.....	4	60
Carriages.....	8	9	.....	5	1	15	60
Cigar manufactories.....	11	38	2	14	.....	54	60
Coal mines.....	9	51	.....	18	.....	64	60
Coopers.....	2	82	.....	5	.....	37	60
Cotton and woolen mills.....	12	67	238	16	22	348	62½
Dry Goods.....	5	22	176	139	1	388	66
Fire Brick.....	1	4	.....	2	.....	6	60
Flour mills.....	5	16	.....	.....	.....	16	60
Furniture.....	8	57	.....	.....	.....	57	60
Glass works.....	2	.....	60	.....	.....	60	60
Harness and Saddlery.....	7	30	.....	4	.....	34	60
Iron mines.....	2	12	.....	.....	.....	12	63
Iron works.....	5	34	.....	.....	.....	34	63
Lead mines.....	8	3	.....	17	.....	20	63
Matches.....	2	89	113	13	11	176	60
Marble works.....	2	4	.....	.....	.....	4	60
Paper Boxes.....	1	8	16	.....	.....	19	60
Painters.....	4	5	.....	2	.....	7	60
Painting mills.....	6	28	.....	4	.....	27	60
Printing.....	13	46	80	38	6	120	60
Potteries.....	5	9	.....	7	.....	16	60
Railroad shop.....	1	2	.....	.....	.....	20	60
Stone cutters.....	8	6	.....	.....	.....	6	60
Tobacco manufactories.....	7	46	42	13	.....	101	60
Wine Growers.....	1	4	.....	.....	.....	4	60
Wire mills.....	1	.....	.....	50	.....	50	60

Total number of establishments.....	123
Total number of boys employed.....	1,001
Total number of girls employed.....	687
Total number of boys and girls.....	1,688
Number of boys under 14 years.....	408
Number of girls under 14 years.....	41

Taking the partial census of 1876, there were, in the State, according to the report of the Missouri State Board of Immigration, 14,245 manufacturing establishments. By reference to the foregoing table, it will be seen that the total returns from manufacturing establishments and mines received by the Bureau was 133; boys under 14 employed, 408; girls under 14 employed, 41; total boys and girls under 14, 449. Boys over 14 employed, 593; girls over 14 employed, 646; total boys and girls over 14 employed, 1,239. Grand total boys and girls over and under 14 years of age employed in 133 manufacturing establishments and mines, 1,688.

If the foregoing figures represent the average of the children and youth employed in 14,245 manufacturing establishments and mines in the State, the aggregate number employed reaches 180,793. This result is important as a measure of comparison with the school population and school enrollment of the State. The school population of the State in 1878 was 688,248, the school enrollment 448,033, a difference of 240,215. Add to the school enrollment 180,793 employed in factories and mines, and the difference is reduced to 59,422, which may be accounted for by adding the attendance at the private schools.

The first section of article 11 of the Constitution of this State declares that "a general diffusion of knowledge and intelligence being essential to the preservation of the rights and liberties of the people, the General Assembly shall establish and maintain free public schools for gratuitous instruction for all persons in this State between the age of six and twenty years." And there is an old and tried saying, that "the children of the State are the property of the State," and it is applied more especially in matters of education, where public free schools are erected and a free education in the elementary branches at least is in the reach of all. But while this is true, yet in this country, one step more in advance is necessary to carry out the true spirit of the maxim quoted, and that is to make it compulsory upon the part of parents to educate their children, as the practice is in Germany and other European countries. If the proposition be true that the children of the State are the property of the State, then arises the question: "Why does not the State, through legal enactment, put in force healthy and well digested laws regulating the matter of employing child labor?" Almost everything else is regulated by law, and why should not this be a proper question for legislation?

When the question is received in its huge proportions, its vastness deters most writers from discussing it, hence the reason that it is scarcely ever mentioned and so little understood.

To the thinking mind the spectacle presented by the almost universal employment of child labor in nearly all branches of industry is certainly appalling. To see boys and girls who should be in school, or at home under the care of their parents, and there remain until they have arrived at the proper age to enter the workshop and begin the career that is to fit them for the future, at labor in the various establishments of the country, speaks badly for the State. The employment of child labor destroys not only the physical development of the child, but cuts off the opportunities offered for an education, without which even the most skilled mechanic becomes a mere automaton or machine, and not what was intended, a noble and intelligent being.

The early confinement of children in our factories, mills and other establishments blunts all their sensibilities, engenders disease, creates false impressions of life and its duty, and we unhesitatingly say, it is productive of licentiousness and a total disregard of all that savors of morality and the obligations that are due to society and to God. This is a broad assertion, but we believe is susceptible of proof. Take, if you please, one of our large manufacturing establishments where child labor of both sexes is employed, and watch closely for one week, and you will see what is meant by the assertion just made. This contact of children begets too much familiarity between them ; the character and tone of their conversation between them is such that they become familiarized with obscenity and vulgar language; in the female, that modesty which should adorn her from the cradle to the grave, is almost totally lost ; she becomes familiar with the toying and teasing of the male, and even the keen eye of the superintendent or the foreman can not prevent the contact of the sexes.

Constant employment in such places deprives children of that freedom in their early days that was intended by nature to prepare them at maturer age for life's battle, and the parent who willingly consents for his young and tender offspring to thus enter the workshop is guilty of a crime against God and nature. Children are not intended to be made slaves of, much less men and women, but the avarice and greed of parents, as a general rule, is the cause of so much of the misery that follows such a system. The grasping employer, too, is entitled to his share of the responsibility for the dire results flowing from the employment of child labor. He does it for the sake of profit, and cares not for the moral or physical health of the growing boy or girl that he employs for a pittance. Could parents see or foretell what they are entailing upon their children by thus forcing them into the field of labor before they are sufficiently developed to endure it, we are sure there would be less of it.

Again, the effect of the employment of child labor is to deteriorate adult labor, and bring it down to a very low standard. The man of years who has spent the earlier part of his life in mastering his business, is placed in the position where he must compete with child labor or else starve. And since labor-saving machinery has become so common in almost all branches, a large number of the trades have become obsolete, and why? Because children can run machinery that will turn off more work than a dozen good hands by the old system. Before a special committee on labor, appointed by the 31st General Assembly of the State of Illinois, the Chicago Trades' Council showed the fact that in the "Frankfort Yarn Mills, Philadelphia, Penn., 151 persons of both sexes and ages, made 35,000 miles of yarn per day from raw material; to do this work fifty or sixty years ago would have required 61,603 women with the old machines, and that in this same mill five years ago, it required 302 persons to do that which is now done by 151 persons, and now with the improved machines, one person does the work that required 408 persons to do sixty years ago; and it was further shown that in weaving cotton fabrics, a girl with the improved machine loom, does the work that would have required 100 women in our mother's time." Hence, when we say as a rule, that inventions are not beneficial to the general class of trades-men, we do not wish to be understood as decrying the genius that creates labor-saving implements, but we do hold that the skillful mechanic that has the brain to create and build an article of his trade, by invention, becomes simply the motive power to put into operation a mechanic that takes away from him the value of his services and long years of trial and application.

The employment of children is wrong in so many senses that it is difficult to enumerate them. Pathologically considered, it is terrible in its effects. Scientists tell us that confinement of children of tender years in illy ventilated shops, and at steady labor, is productive of disease. Thousands of cases of curvature of the spine, softening of the brain, strabismus or cross-eyes, consumption, and a hundred other ailments, are directly traceable to the employment of children, whose bone and muscle are then in the chrysalistic or soft state, and their lives shortened and rendered miserable by disease engendered thus early in life. There is no overrating the heinousness of the system, and it is justly entitled to the cognomen of brutal. It may in fact be called a species of murder, sanctioned by custom as well as law. If this view of the case is correct, we ask how long will the State allow its citizens to send their children of tender age to work so early, persist in their sinful course, and lay themselves liable, in a moral sense, to the charge of murder? We know this is drawing the question down to a very fine

point, but logically the reason is correct, especially if cause and effect are to be considered in the discussion.

The responsibility of the short lives of our children and youth who are so early made to labor, must rest upon the parents. The Creator gave to parents offspring that his glory might be perpetuated, and upon them rests the burden of rearing them, so that they can glorify him. The necessities of life compel all to labor, but we emphatically deny that it is necessary to place children in the field of labor before they are old enough to know what it is. Take the question in all its bearings, analyze it as you please, and still the enormity of the system stands uncontradicted.

Again, we hold that child-labor has the direct effect to deteriorate skillful and accomplished labor. Were the system abolished the result would be that skilled labor would earn more wages and be enabled to take that care of their children that nature demands they should. We would have less immorality and licentiousness among the youth of the State; we would have a healthier race to take our place in the future; we would have less use for courts, jails, penitentiaries and the gallows. Instead of weak-minded, ill-shaped, dissolute men and women, who, having been planted in early infancy in our shops and factories, and there drank in and having made it a part of their very existence, all the bad influences, both moral and physical, we would have a different race of beings; we would then see women fit to become the mothers of unborn generations, and men skilled in their art, and who would fill the idea expressed in the words, "nature's noblest work."

The effect of such early confinement and toil is to blunt the sensibilities of the child, retard physical and mental development and to create a sense of degradation in the youthful mind thus early condemned to a life of toil. After a confinement of ten hours a day in the workshop the child is unfitted for anything like study, but will endeavor to seek rest for the tired little body in some way that is improper and injurious in many ways. Freed from shop restraint they meet on street corners, and far into the night they may be found in groups, instead of at home taking the rest necessary to fit them for next day's work. The majority of children employed are forced to lunch on cold victuals for dinner, and eat a large and hasty meal after their day's labor is over, producing indigestion, with its numerous train of disorders; and if you scan the faces of thousands of children, you will be convinced of the truth of this statement.

What inducement, then, has the poor unfortunate little slave, aye, worse than the galley-slave, to strive to obtain a position in life? Any? We say it is wrong, it is cruel, it is barbarous to condemn children to

lives of misery in this way. It is a blight upon the boasted civilization of the age and a reproach to mankind, and should be wiped out from our escutcheon.

We contend that the abolition of the system of child-labor within the age we have suggested would be beneficial to all parties concerned—employers, adult labor, parents and children. It would have the effect to increase wages, and thus enable the wage-worker who has children to take better care of them, and not force them at their tender years to work to live. The increase in wages would enable the parent to school and clothe his children, and when the time arrived that they could, without endangering their health, go to a trade, they would be fitted to endure the fatigue and confinement incident thereto. And here we assert from experience in this regard that if the present system of child-labor was abolished, we would have a better class of workmen in all branches of labor. There is no disputing the fact, and the other fact also, that there are too many incompetent and unskillful workmen in this country. This very fact, too, is one of the chief factors in keeping down wages at such a low figure. Skilled labor cannot command the price it deserves, and incompetent labor gets more than it is worth.

#### THE APPRENTICE SYSTEM.

In our researches for facts and figures that would aid in the solution of the unsolved problem of labor, we have found no one phase of the question more intricate than that of the apprenticeship system. In our visits among the large industrial establishments of the various cities of the State, we have been surprised at seeing the immense number of youths that are employed, and still more astonished at finding that not one per cent. of the vast number are regularly apprenticed or indentured. It is this fact that accounts so satisfactorily for the large per centage of unskilled mechanics and artisans in this country, and the additional inevitable result, *low wages*—for second and third rate workmen cannot command first class wages. Again, our investigations in this direction have enlightened us on another point often pondered over, and that is: Why is it that foreign mechanics in many branches command higher salaries than our native born citizens? It is because that in England and other places when the boy or girl is put to a trade, it is compelled to serve under indenture a sufficient number of years to become thorough in the trade; and the employer is compelled to teach them—not a portion, but a thorough knowledge of the business. Until some such system as this is adopted in this country, there will be but little encouragement for the production of a race of mechanics and artisans, who would make excellence in their calling their highest aim.

As the case now stands a boy of 12 or 14 years is put into a factory by his parent or guardian, to learn the business; no written contract or agreement is made between the employer and parent, but in nearly all instances a simple verbal agreement, binding on neither party. Months elapse, and the employer finds the boy adapted for *one special part of the* business, and keeps him there for years, because he can make more money for him in that department. Finally, the boy is turned out without any practical knowledge of the general business—it is only a smattering of the trade he must depend upon for a living, and the consequence is, he never can secure a salary commensurate with what is rightfully due a thorough workman. And worse than all it is the low grade of workmanship that he who has served a proper time, and is accomplished, has to compete with.

The employers are more directly responsible for this evil of incompetent mechanics than probably the parents who thus condemn their children to occupy the bottom round in the ladder. Greed and avarice on the part of employers, instead of a desire to see the youth come out a skilled mechanic, is the prime cause, on their side; and greed and avarice on the part of the parent on the other side—eager to get the pittance earned by the child, upon the plea that each child should do something to help along.

What is needed in this regard is a healthy, well-digested law, regulating the time at which child-labor may be employed, with a requirement that the apprentice be indentured for a period of years, and the employer required to give a bond to teach the boy or girl all the branches of the business, and be liable to the parent or guardian in an action for damages for a failure to perform this duty. The employer should also be protected in his rights, and not be allowed to suffer from unprincipled or piratical competitors, or by the parents, by inducements offered to the boy to leave the employer's service.

In this State the only law bearing upon this question under discussion is found in the Revised Statutes, vol. 2, sec. 4097, chap. 76, page 817, which provides that for taking away from an employer an apprentice, or counseling him to rebel or assault his employer, etc., the parties so doing "shall forfeit not less than twenty nor more than five hundred dollars."

This Statute applies only where there exists articles of indenture, and does not reach the evil existing. If all apprentices were required to be indentured, the law quoted would probably be effective, but under the present state of affairs it is virtually a dead letter—and the apprentice has no protection. Let us look for a moment at some of the evils of the present system. Take up your leading daily papers and

look under the heading "Male Help Wanted," and there is scarcely an issue in which there will not be found advertisements like this:

"WANTED.—*A boy who has had some experience in the printing business;*" or,

"WANTED.—*A boy about 16 years of age, who has worked in a bakery.*"

And scores of others of like kind. Now, what is this but a bid to some boy, unindentured, who has been under the pupilage of probably some painstaking, careful employer, who has been at great pains to teach the boy the first rudiments of the business, to leave his employer, and for what? The prospect probably of a slight advance in wages. These bribes come, too, from fellow-craftsmen, among whom there ought to be a little honor and kindly feeling. It is a system of piracy that the law should step in and prevent; and then, not only employers, but apprentices would know there was a responsibility resting upon each, and obligations that must be faithfully discharged.

On the other hand, it is true, that not every boy or girl, even with the most skillful training, can become experts at their trades. But the State can raise the strong arm of the law to *protect* the youth in his endeavors to learn the trade he has chosen, by not permitting him, first, to begin too young, and to inhibit employers from taking apprentices unless indentured by some court, and requiring them to give them a complete knowledge of the business. If this were done, and we respectfully suggest that it is a noble subject, and one worth the attention of legislators, there would soon be a marked change for the better among the mechanics and tradesmen of the land. There would be better workmen and better work turned out; wages would be increased, for then mechanical talent would command its equivalent, and there would be less strikes among tradesmen for higher wages.

We are led to these conclusions and suggestions after careful and patient investigation of the question under consideration, and the evils that encompass it. We might give, in detail, page after page of these evils, but refrain, desiring only to invite attention to what we believe to be at least a partial remedy for the same.

Certainly, then, any legislation that will insure greater protection to the apprentice, or guarantee him a complete education in his business, or that would guarantee employers the benefits arising from a careful training of apprentices, should and would be hailed with delight by all fair-minded and well-disposed on both sides; and we are satisfied would result in great good to all concerned. As a State we owe no higher duty to posterity than to prevent the mechanic or artisan from being a burden and disgrace to himself by allowing him to leave

the workshop before he is master of his business, and to our legislators belongs this most pleasant duty as the guardians of the people and their interests.

*Questions* 14 to 18 inclusive, on employers' blank No. 1, and 16 and 17 on employers' general blank No. 2, called for information in regard to the apprentice system in vogue in this State. The questions propounded, briefly stated, are: If apprentices were indentured? if a special teacher were employed? average wages per year? if they stayed the time required to enable them to become proficient in the trade? and if employment was afterwards given those who served the time agreed on?

In the following pages will be found the results of our investigations:

*Carpenters*.—Of the 21 returns, only five report having apprentices, but none indentured; 4 report them not staying long enough to be recognized as journeymen. The pay for the 1st year is \$3.00; 2d year, \$5.00; 3d year, \$7.00 per week. One return says: "We found it a losing business to take apprentices, as they invariably leave when able to do an indifferent job."

*Planing mills*.—Thirteen returns report employing 26 boys; not one is indentured, nor is a special teacher provided; the wages range from \$3.00 to \$4.50 per week.

*Builders*.—Returns from 11 establishments show that none of the 9 boys employed are indentured, and the employers, with but one exception, state that none of them remain long enough to become skilled workmen; wages per week, 1st year, \$3.00; 2d year, \$6.00; 3d year, \$8.50.

*Painters*.—Ten returns from boss painters show only 6 boys employed, and none indentured; only instances are given where apprentices remained the required time to be recognized as journeymen; wages per week, 1st year, \$3.00; 2d year, \$5.00; and 3d year, \$6.00. One employer says: "The trouble is to-day, no inducement nor security is offered a boy to learn a trade; for, after they do learn a trade, decent pay is not afforded them as journeymen."

*Iron industries*.—Returns from stove foundries, machine shops, saw works, boulder shops, rolling mills, plow works, wire works, agricultural implements and blast furnaces, report 45 boys employed; of this number 3 in plow works, 2 in stove foundries and 1 in saw works are indentured. A master mechanic in charge of a shop in St. Louis, employing over 200 men, says: "Our trade would be much better were we to have a good law, making employers obtain articles of indenture before employing young persons. The Legislature should enact a law to that effect."

*Harness Makers.*—One establishment out of seven making returns, reports five apprentices indentured, and that they generally stay the required time to be recognized as journeymen and receive employment afterwards. The balance have no indentured apprentices; three say: "Apprentices remain long enough to become journeymen, and we give them employment afterwards;" the others say "no." Wages per week, first year, \$3.00; second year, \$4.00; third year, \$5.00.

*Furniture.*—Apprentices in this trade generally receive for first year, \$3.00; second year, \$4.00; third year, \$5.00 per week. None are reported being indentured. A chair factory in St. Louis, employing an average of 50 boys, reports none indentured, nor do they remain long enough to become skilled workmen.

*Coopers.*—In this trade boys are very seldom indentured, nor are there special teachers employed. All our returns agree that apprentices do not stay the required time to become skilled. Wages per week, 1st year, \$2.00; 2d year, \$3.00; 3d year, \$4.00.

*Tailors.*—The returns received from this trade report no apprentices, but from inquiries made among the journeymen it was ascertained that very few were indentured, and that but a small per centage remained long enough to become skilled in their trade.

*Printing.*—Returns from 21 printing establishments agree that the number of indentured apprentices in their trade is small, and that few remain the required time to be recognized as journeymen. Wages per week, 1st year, \$2.00; 2d year, \$4.00; 3d year, \$6.00.

*Cigar Manufacturers.*—All the returns report apprentices, but none indentured; very few stay the required time to become skilled workmen. As a rule, boys are hired to stem tobacco, and in course of time are placed at the table to learn the trade, and with the aid of *moulds*, learn to make a common cigar in a few months, then they shift from one shop to another, and in very few instances become good workmen.

*Cotton and Woolen Mills.*—Seventeen returns from this industry report 107 young persons employed, and of this number only one is indentured. Wages per week, \$2.50, \$4.00 and \$6.00.

*Marble Works.*—Two employers in this business report apprentices, but none indentured. Wages per week, 1st year, \$3.00; 2d year, \$4.50; 3d year, \$6.00. As a general rule, they remain the required time to become skilled mechanics, and get employment as journeymen.

*Shoemakers.*—In shops where only custom work is made, apprentices are occasionally indentured, but as a general rule a verbal agreement between employer and parent or guardian is all that binds the apprentice. In large factories where all kinds of improved machinery is in use, no apprentice system exists, and very few men can now be found

having a practical knowledge of the whole trade. The reason given for this state of affairs is that boys are employed first as machine tenders or helpers by the firm, and occasionally by the workmen as well, to black edges, cement channels, and various other light work at which he may work for several years or until he is physically strong enough to be placed at another branch of the trade, such as lasting, heelng, trimming, burnishing or finishing, which he follows to the end of life, being only able to perform that *one* branch of the trade.

*Miscellaneous Occupations.* Artificial flowers, belting, glass works, plating shops, saddle-trees, tannery and wool carding establishments all report apprentices, but none indentured. Nearly all remain the required time to be recognized as journeymen, and, as a rule, get employment after having served the full time agreed on. Wages vary but little in the above occupations, and are, on an average, per week, for 1st year, \$2.00; 2d year, \$4.00, and 3d year, \$5.00.

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**PART VIII.**

**FIRE ESCAPES, ACCIDENTS BY MACHINERY,**

**TIME IN PRESENT EMPLOYMENT,**

**CHILDREN AT SCHOOL, VALUE OF TOOLS,**

**IMPROVED MACHINERY.**

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## FIRE ESCAPES.

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One of the most necessary requirements, and one that is found wanting in nearly every factory and workshop in the State, is the means of escape in case of fire. That this important factor has escaped the attention of our law makers, is somewhat surprising, to say the least. The destruction of the Southern Hotel, at St. Louis, in April, 1877, and with it the sacrifice of human life, all on account of the insufficiency of the means of escape, would lead the thinking mind to infer that our legislators, ere this, would have passed a stringent law to provide against the repetition of such a frightful catastrophe.

While the State has neglected its duty in this direction, the city council of St. Louis saw the necessity of taking such steps as would prevent a recurrence of this kind, by passing an ordinance making it compulsory for each hotel to be supplied with necessary appliances of escape in case of fire. But while the council required hotels to be amply provided with "fire escapes," it overlooked the important fact that thousands of the working classes are crowded into factories and workshops which may be fitly described as mere cinder boxes, with no avenue for escape except windows and stairways.

In most cases the buildings are three, four and five stories high, packed in between other houses of similar height. It is often the case that the first and second stories of these buildings are occupied by a business house, the third, fourth and fifth stories are sublet to manufacturers, and, as a general rule, the employes are engaged in the fifth story; the third and fourth are filled with combustible material of all kinds, which, in case of fire, would cut off all egress, for the simple reason that, as a general rule, only one stairway leads to the upper departments.

To prove the necessity for such a law, we need only refer to a few instances, still fresh in the minds of the people: The first case is the fire which consumed the furniture factory of John H. Vornbrock, at

St. Louis, July 28, 1880, in broad daylight. Several employes at work in the third story were cut off by the rapid spread of the flames in the lower part of the building, and narrowly escaped death by jumping from the windows to the ground.

Another case was the burning of the mill of the Yæger Milling Company, at St. Louis, August 18, 1880. One of the employes was in the third story of the building, directly over the room where the fire originated, at the time the blaze was discovered. He was ignorant of the fire until that part of the building became suddenly filled with smoke. He started for the stairway, but found that his escape was cut off by the flames. He ran to the window and threw himself out, falling to the ground and breaking both legs, and besides receiving internal injuries.

Many other cases of a similar nature could be cited, but the above are sufficient to illustrate the necessity that our factories and workshops should be provided with fire escapes, as well as hotels. The fact that in the past we may have escaped without any serious loss of life, should not deter the Legislature from enacting such laws as will prevent such an occurrence altogether.

In order to show how our factories and workshops are provided with fire escapes, the following tables, based on the returns received, give the height of workshops in stories, the number of persons employed on each floor above the first, and the means of escape in case of fire. A great many large firms evaded the question entirely:

TABLE XX.—FIRE ESCAPES—EMPLOYERS' RETURNS.

No. of return.	Business.	Height of work-shops in stories.	No. employed.				Means of escape in case of fire.
			On 2d floor.	On 3d floor.	On 4th floor.	On 5th floor.	
519	Bagging factory.....	3	16	30	....	....	One stairway.
587	" "	4	50	51	41	....	Broad stairway.
518	Boots and shoes.....	4	18	18	26	....	Two stairways and elevator.
1,858	Cotton factory.....	3	50	35	....	....	Doors and stairway.
1,856	" "	*3	....	....	....	....	Stairway and windows.
1,046	Carriage manuf'y. ..	3	7	8	....	....	Windows and stairway.
1,042	" "	4	6	7	11	....	Doors and windows.
1,037	" "	2	26	22	....	....	Stairways and windows.
1,161	" "	2	2	2	....	....	Doors and windows.
279	Carriages & wagons	2	7	....	....	....	Stairway and doors.
1,370	" "	5	....	....	....	....	Steps, slides and elevator.
1,169	" "	2	8	....	....	....	Doors and windows.
486	Cigar factory.....	4	25	20	....	....	One stairway.
414	" "	3	....	15	....	....	Stairway and six windows.
1,288	Dry Goods.....	8	57	18	....	....	Two stairways and scuttle on roof.
1,271	" "	4	92	57	82	....	Stairway and elevator.
1,273	" "	3	....	....	....	....	Five doors.
1,276	" "	3	35	10	....	....	Stairway and doors.
110	Flour mill.....	5	10	2	2	2	Plenty of stairways.
149	" "	4	....	....	....	....	Stairways and windows.
152	" "	3	....	....	....	....	Doors and windows.
234	" "	4	2	2	1	....	Windows.
1,484	Furniture factory....	2	22	....	....	....	Three stairways.
1,278	" "	3	18	10	....	....	Side and front doors.
1,285	" "	4	18	14	....	....	Four stairways.
1,287	" "	5	18	18	16	12	Stairways only.
1,296	" "	4	12	8	17	....	Two stairways.
515	" "	5	....	....	....	....	Stairways and windows.
292	Harness & Saddlery	3	....	....	....	....	One stairway.
592	" "	4	....	32	....	....	Two inside stairways.
819	" "	2	12	....	....	....	One stairway.
823	" "	4	10	4	120	....	Elevator and stairway.
1,243	Machine shop.....	3	8	4	....	....	Stairways only.
1,336	Mantles & grates....	4	....	....	....	....	Stairway and adjoining roof.
643	Printing .....	4	....	....	....	....	Windows and stairway.
853	" "	4	15	87	....	....	Stairway and elevator.
1,018	" "	3	25	4	....	....	Two stairways and elevator.
1,110	" "	5	....	25	20	15	One stairway.
1,374	" "	8	....	14	....	....	Elevator and two stairways.
288	" "	3	5	9	....	....	Stairway and windows.
703	Tobacco works.....	3	16	2	....	....	Doors and stairway.
1,218	" "	5	25	8	45	18	Elevator and stairway.
1,32	White lead.....	3	6	2	....	....	Two stairways and elevator.
1,386	" "	3	6	4	....	....	Two stairways.
71	Wollen mill.....	3	3	4	....	....	One stairway.
682	" "	3	5	15	....	....	Stairway and windows.
1,311	" "	3	34	2	....	....	Doors and windows.
1,815	" "	3	3	2	....	....	Stairways.
1,316	" "	8	5	6	....	....	Five fire extinguishers.

\*Employs 820 persons.

Total number of establishments tabulated.....	49
Total number of employes.....	1,604
Number employed on second floor.....	662
Number employed on third floor.....	519
Number employed on fourth floor.....	881
Number employed on fifth floor.....	42

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Under the head of "means of escape in case of fire," in the table above, the replies given are in the words of the employers, and go far to illustrate the materialistic spirit of the community, in the momentary consideration shown for the safety or sacredness of human life, and the rapidity with which such a terrible lesson as that taught us by the Southern Hotel disaster (at St. Louis), fade from the public mind. If the law providing for the inspection of buildings, public and private, does not cover the case now under consideration, it should be at once made to do so, and the inspector held to a strict performance of such an important and responsible duty.

The appended table is made up from employes' returns, and bears out the assertion at the beginning of this chapter, in regard to the necessity of the "means of escape in case of fire," in factories or workshops.

TABLE XXI.—FIRE ESCAPES.—EMPLOYES' RETURNS.

No. of return.	Occupation.	Height of work shops in stories.	No. of persons employed therein.	Are means of fire escape ample.	Remarks.
294	Blacksmith.....	2	75	No. Yes.	Doors only.
506	" .....	2	150	No.	No danger.
1,495	Carpenter.....	2	55	"	Had to jump out of windows.
924	Cigarmaker.....	3	11	"	Stairways only (endorsed by re- turns, 1,826 and 1,828).
1,603	" .....	4	50	"	One stairway (endorsed by returns, 1,623, 1,680, 1,806, 1,807, 1,808, 1,811, 1,812 and 1,827).
1,624	" .....	3	40	"	One narrow stairway (endorsed by return 1,803).
1,745	" .....	8	17	"	If egress by stairway was cut off, would have to jump out of window.
846	Miller .....	3	5	"	Stairway only.
51	Cabinetmaker .....	4	200	"	(Endorsed by returns 481, 487, 488 and 588).
650	Harnessmaker.....	4	75	"	
551	" .....	4	100	"	Would have to jump out of win- dows (endorsed by returns 483, 559, 561, 562).
570	" .....	3	26	"	
583	" .....	4	90	"	
334	Planing mill hand .....	8	50	"	(Endorsed by return 165),
1,771	" .....	2	150	"	One way out, very bad.
1,343	Printer.....	3	40	"	No chance to save yourself.
605	" .....	3	25	"	
429	" .....	5	102	"	One stairway and elevator.
485	" .....	4	90	"	
1,806	Tobacconist .....	5	100	"	No means whatever (endorsed by returns 1,608, 1,609 and 1,629). (Endorsed by return 1,064).
29	Tailor.....	4	25	"	
1,047	" .....	3	11	"	
1,573	" .....	5	58	"	(Endorsed by returns 1,575 and 1,576)
1,577	" .....	5	20	"	No precaution whatever.
517	Laborer in oil works.....	4	50	"	Narrow stairway only.
1,604	Porter.....	5	80	"	Jump for life.
58	Trimmer .....	4	30	"	Stairway only.
275	" .....	4	60	"	No chance whatever.
59	" .....	3	40	"	
275	Employe in lead works.	3	120	"	No appliance at all.

## ACCIDENTS BY MACHINERY, ETC.

By the introduction of machinery into all departments of labor, numerous accidents to life and limb occur from various causes. Not a day passes but that some one is reported, through the medium of the daily press, having been maimed or disabled by machinery. Although in many cases the accident is the result of culpable negligence on the part of the employers in providing the necessary safeguard against accidents. Wheels, belts and pulleys are left unguarded, when the victim, in a moment of forgetfulness, is caught, as was the case in Peper's tobacco factory in St. Louis, 1880, where a boy thirteen years of age was the victim. While at work near a rapidly revolving pulley-wheel, the corner of his apron caught and he was thrown against a pile of boxes, the force of the blow breaking both arms and legs. A simple railing, the work of an hour's time, would save many a human being from being crippled for life; and while such is the case, the powerful arm of the law should be invoked to protect those that necessity compels to come in contact with unguarded machinery.

Questions 22, 23, 24 and 25, on employer's blank: *Have any of your employes been injured in your establishment during the year?—If so, state causes.—Result.—Do you continue the wages, or any part thereof, to an employe while so disabled?* Received fewer replies than any other question. The following brief summary from the returns gives further results from the Bureau's investigations.

Three returns from planing mills report accidents, and in only one case was the wages continued, and that was where the injury was slight. In one of the other two cases, a man's arm was cut off by a band-saw and he was discharged. *Painters.*—Two returns report accidents; one fell from staging, and the result was a broken ankle; wages discontinued. The other also fell from staging and received severe bruises, and no wages were paid while so disabled. One employer reports continuing wages to employes if disabled in his service. *Stoneware and pottery.*—One return says: "Man had his hand caught in the clay-wheel; result, not serious; wages discontinued." Only one firm in St. Louis reports continuing wages to employes, if disabled in their service. *Breweries.*—Three returns report paying wages to disabled workmen in their employ, and one adds: "One of our men slipped near the fly-wheel and had his leg broken; got well again and went to Europe; full wages were continued." *Carriage and wagon manufacturers.*—Several accidents to employes in this trade are reported, but none serious. One firm, in regard to continuing wages to men disabled in their services, says: "Under certain circum-

stances, we do ; " another, " we give them employment in preference to others, and pay the doctors' bills." *Carpenters*.—One return states that an employe fell off a house and got killed ; another says : " Man fell off scaffold and three ribs broken ; wages discontinued while disabled." *Coopers*.—One return reports an employe " had two fingers cut off, went to work again in six weeks ; wages were partly paid while disabled." *Coal miners*.—One concern reports an accident by coal falling on an employe and disabling him for two months, and adds : " In continuing wages to men disabled while in our employ, all depends upon the cause." Another return reports three accidents, occasioned by falling of roof in the mine, and says : " One died, one is well again, and the other will recover. Sometimes we continue wages ; it all depends on circumstances." Two others placed themselves on record as continuing wages to men disabled while in their employ. *Flour mills*.—Two returns say : " Wages are not continued when employees get disabled ; " while another states, " we pay full wages and doctors' bills ; " another, " full pay is continued." Two accidents are reported ; one man got caught in a large pulley-wheel, the result was death ; the other had his foot crushed by mill-stone ; wages continued. *Furniture manufacturers*.—Return 1,278 reports three accidents during the year; result, " short two or three fingers ; " and adds, " we pay half wages to enable them to pay board." 1,287 reports accidents ; cause, carelessness on part of employees ; wages discontinued. *Iron industries*.—Return 1,113.—" One employe had his leg broken ; wages continued." 1,152.—" Three fingers cut off ; cause, carelessness ; wages discontinued." 782.—" One employe disabled, but recovered in three weeks ; we generally allow half pay." 1,067 (iron mine)—" One man had leg broken by a boulder rolling against him. Wages were partly paid, and light work given when recovered," 23 (foundry) —" Men in our employ receive burns, bruises and sprains ; so far all have recovered ; wages are discontinued as a rule." 508.—" One employe was severely burned, but recovered ; wages discontinued." Three other returns say they pay half wages to men disabled while in their service. *Freight car manufacturer*.—Reports an accident which resulted in death ; wages are discontinued, as a rule, when employes are disabled while in their employ. *Car-wheel manufacturer* says : " Men are often burned by coming in contact with hot iron." In regard to continuing wages, the return answers : " No ; they mostly carry accidental insurance, and receive indemnity from the insurance company." *Lead mining*.—1,383.—" One man fell in shaft, got well again ; wages continued." 1,451.—" One man got caught in machinery ; result, broken leg ; half wages allowed while disabled." Another return says :

"We have had no accidents, but would continue half wages to a man if disabled while in our employ." *Printers.*—1,148.—Reports three accidents, caused by men being caught in the machinery; result, "not serious; only mutilation of fingers." In regard to continuing wages, the return says: "We do not recognize the obligation, but have done so as a matter of fact in some instances." 1,018.—"Nothing serious, but ordinary slight mishaps, caused by carelessness. Sometimes we continue wages for a short time" 288.—"An employe had fingers mashed; cause, personal negligence;" wages discontinued. *Railroad companies.*—(a)—"If injured through no fault of their own, it is customary to allow half time, and free attention by the regularly employed company's surgeon. In extreme cases, full time has been allowed." (b)—"We use our own discretion, owing to circumstances of case." (c)—*Repair shop.*—A few employes have received "some slight injuries, generally through their own carelessness; but none were permanently injured;" wages discontinued. *Woolen and cotton mills.*—1,353.—"Injuries in our factory are trifling, such as fingers; result, no permanent injury; wages are generally continued." 682.—"If hands get disabled while in our service, and they work by the month or year, we allow full wages." 519.—"Wages continued if worthy." 73—"Had no accidents; if we had, would allow half pay." *Match factory*—515—Had a few accidents and continued wages to "some" of their employes.

#### QUESTION 5—TIME IN PRESENT EMPLOYMENT.

This question was intended to ascertain from workingmen whether employment in their respective trades and callings was steady and permanent or fluctuating and uncertain. The answers given, are shown in the table below, and cover a period of time varying from one week to twenty years.

TABLE XXII.—TIME IN EMPLOYMENT.

Occupation.	Number of returns.	In present employment.						Five years and over.
		For six months or less.	From six months to one year.	From one to two years.	From two to three years.	From three to four years.	From four to five years.	
Blacksmiths.....	7	3	.....	2	1	.....	.....	1
Boot and shoemakers.....	3	.....	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	1
Bricklayers.....	14	3	6	1	1	.....	.....	2
Carpenters.....	23	12	8	1	1	1	1	4
Carriages and wagons.....	4	.....	1	2	1	.....	.....	.....
Cigar makers.....	65	25	15	6	7	5	2	5
Clerks.....	4	.....	.....	2	1	.....	.....	.....
Clothiers, (tailors).....	14	2	4	4	1	1	1	2
Coal miners.....	27	10	6	8	2	2	2	2
Coopers.....	10	2	2	2	1	.....	1	2
Engineers.....	5	2	.....	1	1	1	.....	.....
Flour mills.....	7	2	1	.....	.....	.....	1	1
Furniture makers.....	7	.....	1	1	.....	1	.....	4
Harness and saddlery.....	26	4	4	.....	4	2	1	11
Iron miners.....	19	6	8	.....	.....	.....	1	4
Laborers.....	8	8	1	.....	2	.....	.....	2
Lead miners.....	29	13	7	5	2	5	.....	7
Machinists.....	8	2	.....	1	2	1	.....	2
Marble cutters.....	2	.....	.....	1	.....	1	.....	.....
Plaining mill employes.....	4	.....	.....	2	.....	.....	1	1
Painters.....	2	1	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....
Plasterers.....	18	8	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	4
Printers.....	13	4	2	2	3	.....	.....	2
Railroad employes.....	55	6	3	6	11	4	7	18
Stove foundry employes.....	4	8	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Tinners.....	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2
Tobacconists.....	5	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	4
Not classified.....	20	3	2	8	1	.....	.....	6

The above table shows that of the five hundred and seventy-five returns received from employes by the Bureau, only four hundred and ten made replies to the question, "Time in present employment?" The result shows that one hundred and fourteen were employed less than six months; sixty-eight from six months to one year, and fifty-four from one to two years, while those who have been at work for present employer from two to three years, number forty-three; from three to four years, 25; from four to five years, nineteen; and for five years and over, eighty-seven.

## VALUE OF TOOLS.

*Question 19*—"Do you own your own working tools? If so, what is their value?" The object in asking this question was to ascertain the cost of tools necessary in the several trades and callings with the following result: *Coopers*—\$10.00 to \$30.00. *Cigarmakers*—\$1.00 to \$3.00. *Tailors*—Including sewing machine, on average, \$87.00. *Furnituremakers*—\$35.00 to \$100.00. *Harnessmakers*—\$10.00 to \$50.00; average, \$25.00. *Tobacconists*—Knife, 50 cents. *Lead miners*—\$10.00 to \$30.00; average, \$15.00. *Iron miners*—Steam drills are in use, and the miner in but few instances requires any tools. *Machinists*—\$20.00 to \$100.00; average, \$50.00. *Stove moulders*—\$5.00 to \$10.00. *Patternmaker*—\$75.00. *Carpenters*—Thirty-three returns average \$97.00. *Plasterers*—\$10.00 to \$15.00. *Bricklayers*—\$3.00 to \$5.00. *Millers*—Average, \$20.00. *Cordwainer*—\$50.00. *Boilermaker*—\$100.00. *Wagon maker*—\$100.00. *Saddletreemaker*—\$10.00. *Shoemaker*—\$30.00. *Marblecutters*—\$20.00. *Painters*—\$8.00 to \$15.00. *Engineers*—\$20.00 to \$75.00; average, \$50.00. *Stone cutters*—\$10.00 to \$25.00.

## CHILDREN AT SCHOOL.

*Question 27*—"How many children have you at school?" In reply to this question the returns furnish the following figures: 6.—*Bricklayers*, report six children at school; 19.—*Carpenters*, forty-two; 22.—*Cigarmakers*, forty-two; 6.—*Coopers*, thirteen; 18.—*Coal miners*, thirty-nine; 5.—*Engineers*, ten; 6.—*Furnituremakers*, twenty-one; 5.—*Harnessmakers*, twelve; 15.—*Lead miners*, thirty-five; 4.—*Machinists*, seven; 5.—*Millers*, nine; 9.—*Plasterers*, fifteen; 2.—*Printers*, four; 8.—*Tailors*, fourteen; 2.—*Tobacconists*, three; 1.—*Stove moulders*, two; 25.—*Railroad employes*, fifty-five; 21.—*Miscellaneous employes*, forty-three; *Iron miners* report few at school, many at work.

## MACHINERY.

Questions thirty-three and thirty-four on employe's blank: "Has any new machinery been introduced in your trade within the last five years? If so, has it caused less workmen to be employed? Has it caused a reduction in wages?" This question received less replies than was expected by the Bureau; a simple *yes* or *no* was all that could be drawn out from those who for years have fought the introduction of every new device in machinery into their trade or calling. The result is tabulated for convenience of comparison.

TABLE XXIII.—IMPROVED MACHINERY.

Occupation.	Has new machinery been introduced?		Has it caused less workmen to be employed?		Has it reduced wages?	
	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No
Boot and Shoemakers.....	2	2	2	.....	2	
Carpenters.....	18	6	16	2	16	2
Cabinetmakers.....	5	2	3	4	3	4
Cigarmakers.....	17	18	13	4	16	1
Coal miners.....	2	12	1	1	2	
Coopers.....	1	1	1	1	1	1
Harness and saddlery.....	20	6	17	8	18	
Iron miners.....	10	4	5	.....	.....	
Lead miners.....	22	7	22	2	21	2
Machinists.....	10	2	6	4	4	6
Marble cutters.....	1	.....	1	.....	1	
Pfaning mills.....	2	1	1	1	1	1
Tailors .....	8	4	3	.....	3	
Tinniers.....	.....	2	.....	.....	.....	
Tobacconists.....	10	.....	10	.....	10	
Wagon makers.....	1	1	1	.....	1	

The contradictory statements made in the above table, evidently shows that the questions were not understood alike by all. If an attempt at reconciliation is of any use, it can only be done successfully on the supposition that the "yesses," in boots and shoes, for example, had reference to the introduction of machinery without regard to limit of time required by the question, the design of which was correctly understood by the two "noes," and answered accordingly. The same may be said of all other occupations in the list, with the exception of marble cutters, tinniers and tobacconists.

From the return (1212) of an employer engaged in the manufacture of plug and smoking tobacco, in St. Louis, we make the following extract in regard to machinery. He says:

There are seven tobacco factories in this city that employ machines to roll tobacco. They employ girls to put on the outside wrapper, whose wages do not exceed \$4.00 per week. Those seven factories throw out of employment about 800 tobacco-rollers. We have only four factories here that make hand-work. Those factories that work machines can stock the market in a short time; then the goods are sold at any price. This is done by the large factories to crush out the small manufacturers. If machines were done away with, there would be plenty of work for all, and good profits; also, labor would be in demand at good living wages, but as it stands now, those machines cause an over-production. If a law could be passed to tax machinery, those who use it would be compelled to employ more hand-labor.



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**PART IX.**

**HOURS OF LABOR.**

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## HOURS OF LABOR.

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When the President of the Philadelphia Board of Trade, in our Centennial year (1876), declared that "nothing is more natural than the existing condition of the industries of the world; excessive stimulus has caused injudicious direction to be given to them, and on every side is to be seen such increase of machinery that with *six* months' continuous action the product would equal a year's consumption," he but corroborated the opinion expressed by Mr. Richard Cobden before the associated mill owners, at Stockport, in 1847, "that there was not cotton in existence to keep their machinery in employment." To both these distinguished and practical-minded citizens the fact was clear and unquestionable that the aggregate productive machinery of the world was largely in advance of the power to consume. These views may be still further fortified by additional testimony equally conclusive and authoritative. A writer in the Industrial Partnerships Record, Manchester, England, January, 1868, to sustain the argument that a more equitable distribution of the products of labor would justify a reduction of the hours of labor to six per day, quotes from a "treatise on the steam engine," by the Artizan Club, edited by Mr. John Bourne, the eminent engineer, and published in 1846. From that quotation we make the following extract: "The most important element of prosperity, however, in the conduct of factories that we can discern, is that of making the workmen employed participators in the profits realized, whereby their energies are effectually enlisted and their ingenuity stimulated to the device of cheaper methods of manufacture. If this innovation be generally carried into effect, strikes will become impossible, and the ingenuity of the workman, at present a barren field, will spring up into new forms of life and productiveness. The collective inventive genius of the operative class is a mine of unspeakable wealth,

and will at once be available by making it the interest of the workman to plan cheaper methods of manufacture. The *managers* of factories are generally made participators in the profits realized, and the most beneficial results have sprung from the arrangement, but the principle has not been generally extended to the workmen, though recent experiments show that in their case it might be applied with equal advantage. M. Leclaire, a house painter in Paris, has, for some years, made his workmen participators in the profits of his establishment, and in a pamphlet recently published he speaks of the system in the highest terms of praise. \* \* \* \* It is clear that the principle of a fair division of profits satisfies every inspiration of industry. Machinery, instead of being the competitor of the workingman for subsistence, will, as soon as this great principle gains an effectual introduction, be his assiduous slave. If machinery ploughs, or spins, or toils in the mine, it is for him that it will perform these beneficent labors, and whatever benefits the introduction of machinery bring, he will participate in it in a fair proportion. Every intellectual capacity will be brought into increased exercise; invention will be stimulated, and improved modes of construction will be devised. We own, we think, that even six hours of work in the day would be enough, for with good machinery, efficient direction and such activity as must arise when men are made participators in the profits arising from their labors, as much work may be done in six hours as in ten or twelve hours, according to the present system."

Again, in presenting the results of the Ten Hour Factory Law in England, passed in 1847, and which went into operation May 1, 1848, Mr. Ira Stewart, one of the ablest writers on the subject in this country, furnishes extracts from the parliamentary debates which took place two years later. From these extracts we take the following: "Mr. Bankers said: The result of these enactments was found to be most advantageous, for without INJURY to the manufacturers, they conferred a great and lasting benefit upon the operatives; they found that both the moral and physical condition of the operatives was considerably improved by these measures; they found that all the predictions made by the opponents of these bills had been falsified, and the hopes of those who entertained a favorable view of these restrictions had been more than realized."

Lord John Russell said: "For my own part, in 1847 I considered the act of that session was a great advantage to the working classes belonging to the mills. I considered it enabled them to have time for their domestic duties, education, and for such other improvements in their social condition as could not otherwise be effected. I did not

think it likely to justify the predictions of its opponents that it would destroy one-sixth of the manufacturing power of the country, and thereby occasion a great diminution of the wealth and industrial power of the empire. Sir, I still retain the opinion I then gave, and I believe the act of 1847 was founded on sound principles, and I have no wish to repeal that act."

These opinions were expressed in 1850, more than two years after the act had been in operation. Sixteen years later (1864), in advocating the extension of the act of 1847, to the manufacture of pottery, lucifer matches, paper staining and other industries, Mr. Bruce said: "Those who were most opposed to these measures (ten hours legislation) at the time of their introduction, and among the number were not only employers of labor, but many statesmen, distinguished as much for their philanthropy as for their political ability—who did not admit the wisdom of these acts of legislation. There was one honorable member who took part in those debates, he believed, and who opposed the introduction of the Factory acts, who did not admit that he was wrong, and the Factory acts, so far from having proved an evil, had been a great blessing."

Mr. Adderly said: "Those who at first were the strongest opponents of the system, now admit the beneficial effects of it. The Factory act was in reality a protection of the good manufacturer against the bad, and it ought to be spread equally and impartially over every kind of employment."

Col. Edwards said: "It might be in the recollection of the House that sixteen years ago he had the honor of supporting the views of that true patriot and benefactor of the working classes—John Fielden—his advocacy in which he achieved the great victory of the Ten Hours Factory Bill. At this period it met with the most determined opposition from the great liberal party; but he was now happy to find that the great majority of its most strenuous opponents, to their honor, confessed that their views were changed with regard to the measure which has proved by its workings to be a complete success."

Mr. Potter admitted that he had been opposed to the Factory acts before their introduction, but that he had become a convert on seeing their beneficent workings.

The reply of Sir George Cornewell Lewis, when Secretary for Home Affairs, to Sir Morton Peto and the London Builders, who opposed the demands of their workmen for the nine hour system, is worthy of the thoughtful consideration of American legislators. In answer to Sir Morton who said that "the demands of the men were unreasonable and unjust," the secretary reminded him that "the *very same*

*arguments* were advanced when men worked 12 and 14 hours a day, and if bank and government clerks worked but 6, 7 and 8 hours a day, why should men whose labor was more severe and pay smaller be required to work more?"

Coming to our own country, it will be seen that the eight hour question was at this very period (1864) one of the leading questions of the day with its industrial classes. From the report of the committee to the Massachusetts House of Representatives in April, 1835, "instructed to inquire as to the propriety of reducing the hours of labor," we make the following extracts."

"The subject of reducing the hours of labor is by no means a new one; nor is it confined solely to our own land. In England it was agitated for many years, both by capitalists and laborers; and as early as the year 1802 it became the subject of legislation by an act of Parliament for the 'preservation of the health and morals' of those employed in the cotton and other factories." This was the 14 hour law. "In 1833 still further legislation was added by an act limiting the hours of labor to not more than twelve hours per day." In 1847, as already shown, the ten hour law was passed and went into operation the following year. It is unnecessary in this connection to give a history of the movement in England, other than to say that the condition of the laborer was so low in the scale of social and moral standard that they were fast verging into the 'dangerous classes' of society, and that the self-interest of the large manufacturers was convinced by experience that it was more profitable to work ten hours than it was a longer period of time. The experience became a success, and is to-day the standard of time in England, saving annually to the nation millions of treasures and thousands of lives." [This paragraph is respectfully submitted for the consideration of those who believe that what we most need at the present day is "a strong government."—BUREAU.]

"In our own country the subject has, for many years, occupied the attention of the public, more particularly the workingmen themselves. We are, however, behind England in legislation and, perhaps, in public opinion upon the subject; certainly in Massachusetts we have had no legislation in regard to it. But though there has been no legislation yet there have been marked and radical changes in regard to the hours of labor. A marked change and improvement has already taken place. In 1850 the demand was for *ten* hours because the operatives worked from twelve to fifteen hours daily, and though the attempt at law failed, yet, owing to the demands of labor and the enlightenment of public opinion, the present system of ten hours was secured. This is now generally in use—the only exceptions being in manufacturing

towns and corporations—where they now require men, women and children to work eleven hours daily—one hour more than in England—*a disgrace, in our opinion, to Massachusetts and an outrage to humanity.* In the hearings before our committee the testimony and the demand was unanimous for a still further decrease of the hours of labor; praying for a limitation by law, of eight hours as a legal day's labor. It will thus be seen that this movement is progressive, or, as some may think, aggressive. Already in this country some four hours have been stricken from daily toil; and yet it is now sought to still further trench upon the industry of the community by taking from it two hours of time and production. Will the industry of the land bear this? The testimony of those who appeared before us, and who represented and spoke the sentiments of thousands of their fellow craftsmen, demonstrated, to our satisfaction, *that not only could the productive industry of the country bear this*, but even more than this. Nay, more; they claim that it will add to the productive industry, producing a greater quantity and a better quality; and they have produced weighty evidence from the experience of the past in support of it. But there is another view of the subject, which is even more important to us, as a people, than the mere increase of wealth or the perfection of the mechanic arts—the protection, preservation and advancement of man. In this view we feel that there is a solemn duty and responsibility resting upon us, and that we are called upon to atone for our apathy of the past by early and earnest action in the future. We have been surprised at the developments which the investigation has produced. *No subject which has been before a committee of this legislature has elicited more important facts, or awakened a more lively or general interest—an interest of the most numerous class in the community, and one which has but too seldom, in our opinion, engaged the attention of our legislation—the condition of our producing classes.* In common with the great majority of the community, we have approached this subject with an entire ignorance of it; and in the belief that there was not, nor could be, any need of investigation, much less of improvement or amelioration in the condition of those whose labors have enriched us, and whose skill and genius in the arts have placed us in the vanguard of the nation. Investigation has dispelled this ignorance; and your committee must bear testimony to the urgent necessity of action and reform in the matter. The evidence presented almost challenged belief. Certainly the committee were astonished that, in the midst of progress and prosperity unparalleled; advancement in the arts and sciences; development in machinery for the saving of labor; progress in invention, and in the increase of wealth and material prosperity; yet man, the pro-

ducer of these—"the first great cause of all," was the least of all, and least understood. The result of this prosperity of which we boast—and which should be a blessing to us—has a tendency to make the condition of the workingmen little else than a machine, with no thought or aspiration higher, in the language of one of the witnessess, "than a slave; for," he added, "we are slaves; overworked, worn out and enfeebled by toil, with no time left us for improvement of mind or soul. Is it surprising that we are degraded and ignorant?" Said another: "I have a son, and sooner than see him a mechanic, to suffer as I have, to toil worse than a slave, and with a low and degraded social standard, I would see him in his grave." This is the spirit and language of all who have appeared before us. It was painful to listen to the unanimous evidence showing a steady demoralization of the men who are the bulwarks of our national life—painful to witness progress in that which is perishable, stagnation and decay in the imperishable and immortal—man. And yet such was the evidence presented to us. Instead of that manly and sturdy independence which once distinguished the mechanic and the workingman, we have cringing servility and supineness. Instead of self-respect and intelligence, we have want of confidence and growing ignorance; instead of honest pride in the dignity of labor, we have the consciousness of inferiority; instead of a desire to enter the mechanic arts, we have loathing and disgust of their drudgery and degradation; *instead of labor being the patent of nobility, it is the badge of servitude.* The committee are constrained to say that, from a patient and careful consideration of the subject, they are satisfied that if we would avert national calamity and decay, loss of industrial science and strength of execution, preserve the health, life and virtue of the people, secure to ourselves and transmit to our posterity the priceless blessings of liberty and self-government; we must awake to the importance of this subject, and if not in the spirit of philanthropy, at least for self-protection; do justice to it; the subject is one of vast importance to the people of our commonwealth. \* \* \* \*

The times in which we live clothe this subject with a new and peculiar significance, while our institutions—their purity, preservation and perpetuation—demand of us an immediate and just investigation and recognition of its claims upon us as legislators and as men. The first duty of the State is to protect itself, to guard the interest of society by suppressing that which is evil and detrimental, and protecting and fostering whatever will conduce to its prosperity. *The State is composed of MEN,* and the interest, progress and advancement of man is the foundation upon which the State rests. If the foundation of the State is firm and

solid, the structure is strong and enduring. Hence, the first duty of the State is to recognize this great principle of manhood. Laid upon that foundation, the State is enduring and immortal."

Fifteen years have elapsed since the presentation of this report, one-fifth of which has witnessed a depression, stagnation and ruin unprecedented in the industrial interests of the world. The circumstance is pregnant and suggestive.

While the question of reducing the hours of labor was thus brought in an official form before the legislature of one of the oldest manufacturing States in the Union, it was undergoing a discussion as thorough and not less animated in many other States. In Illinois, Missouri, California, Wisconsin and other States, laws were passed making eight hours a legal day's work. In California the law was enforced for a considerable time. In Illinois and Missouri the attempt to enforce it failed from the day it was to go into operation, May 1, 1867, and in both States\* the law is a dead letter on the statutes at the present moment.

It may be mentioned, however, as a result of the demonstration made in St. Louis on the day above mentioned, that several employers in the building trade complied with the law for nearly two months, or until the employes were satisfied that its enforcement would not become general. In 1876 the members of the St. Louis Painters' Union circulated a petition among their employers asking for the adoption of the eight hour law in their trade, but as the request did not meet with general approval among the employers, the movement was abandoned.

For some years past, if we except the year 1879, and a few local efforts, a rather quiescent condition has pervaded the movement. But in the spring of 1879 a series of resolutions proposing a general demand for the adoption of the eight hour system, to take effect on the 4th day of July, 1879, were sent to every trades union in the United States by the St. Louis Trades and Labor Assembly. But the proposition was voted down, and the reason given was that the movement was premature.

Another case has come to the knowledge of the Bureau, showing that the eight hour law is not entirely inoperative in the State. The underground miners at Bonne Terre, St. Francois county, who work day and night, are divided into three shifts of eight hours each.

Under the impression that the demand for eight hours was to become general, the "Stone Cutters' Union" of St. Louis, in the spring of the present year (1880), demanded of the employers the adoption of the rule at \$2.50 per day, but discovering their error substituted

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See Revised Statutes of Missouri, vol. 2, page 1205, sec. 6101, chapter 121.

therefor a demand for \$3 at ten hours per day. This is the present attitude of the question of a reduction of the hours of labor in this State.

The following tables are designed to show the average number of days actually employed during the year; the hours worked per day and the average number of days it would have been necessary to do the same work with the same number of men, at eight hours per day; also, the number of days that work would not have been necessary at eight hours per day:

TABLE XXIV.—EMPLOYES' RETURNS.

Occupation.	Number of returns.	Average number of days worked per year.	Average hours worked per day.		Number of days necessary to do the same work allowing eight hours per day.	Number of days that work would not have been necessary at eight hours per day.
			hours	minutes		
Blacksmiths.....	15	247	9	50 minutes	303 <sup>1</sup>	4 <sup>1</sup>
Boots and shoes.....	7	261	10	" 40 "	320 <sup>1</sup>	
Bricklayers.....	19	177	9	" 50 "	217 <sup>1</sup>	89 <sup>1</sup>
Carpenters.....	41	213	10	" .....	263 <sup>1</sup>	41 <sup>1</sup>
Carriages and wagons.....	14	241	10	" .....	301 <sup>1</sup>	64 <sup>1</sup>
Cigarmakers.....	71	289	9	" 40 minutes	288 <sup>1</sup>	19 <sup>1</sup>
Clerks.....	4	212	10	" 45 "	289 <sup>1</sup>	23 <sup>1</sup>
Clothiers (tailors).....	13	210	12	" 40 "	332 <sup>1</sup>	
Coal miners.....	34	204	10	" 36 <sup>1</sup> "	298	15 <sup>1</sup>
Coopers.....	16	222	.....	.....	261 <sup>1</sup>	46 <sup>1</sup>
Engineers.....	9	255	11	hours 40 minutes	371 <sup>1</sup>	
Flour mills.....	8	247	11	" 50 "	363 <sup>1</sup>	
Furniture.....	9	259	10	" 15 "	331 <sup>1</sup>	
Harness and saddles.....	82	225	10	" 40 "	298 <sup>1</sup>	9 <sup>1</sup>
Iron mines.....	20	218	10	" 33 <sup>1</sup> "	286 <sup>1</sup>	21 <sup>1</sup>
Laborers.....	15	283	9	" 56 <sup>1</sup> "	288 <sup>1</sup>	24 <sup>1</sup>
Lead mines.....	63	247	10	" 85 "	329 <sup>1</sup>	
Machinists.....	17	282	9	" 80 "	334 <sup>1</sup>	
Marble works.....	8	185	10	" 56 <sup>1</sup> "	230 <sup>1</sup>	77 <sup>1</sup>
Planing mills.....	5	249	9	" 50 "	304 <sup>1</sup>	3 <sup>1</sup>
Painters.....	12	197	10	" .....	246 <sup>1</sup>	6 <sup>1</sup>
Plasterers.....	17	153	9	" 40 minutes	182 <sup>1</sup>	125 <sup>1</sup>
Printing.....	19	227	10	" 45 "	292 <sup>1</sup>	15 <sup>1</sup>
Railroading.....	53	267	11	" 15 "	371 <sup>1</sup>	
Stone cutters.....	11	213	10	" .....	266 <sup>1</sup>	43 <sup>1</sup>
Stove foundries.....	8	217	10	" .....	271 <sup>1</sup>	36 <sup>1</sup>
Tinners.....	2	160	10	" .....	200	108 <sup>1</sup>
Tobacconists.....	18	210	9	" 50 minutes	248	61 <sup>1</sup>
Not classified.....	22	250	11	" .....	341 <sup>1</sup>	

TABLE XXV.—EMPLOYERS' RETURNS.

Business.	Number of returns.	Average days employed in year.	Average hours worked per day.	Number of days necessary to do the same work allowing eight hours per day.	Number of days that work would not have been necessary at eight hours per day.
Agricultural implements.....	3	157	10 hours.....	196 $\frac{1}{4}$	111 $\frac{1}{4}$
Bakers and confectioners.....	6	174	11 " 15 minutes..	271 $\frac{1}{4}$	36 $\frac{1}{4}$
Blacksmiths.....	21	240	10 " .....	300	8
Blast furnace.....	1	73	12 " .....	109 $\frac{1}{4}$	198 $\frac{1}{4}$
Boiler works.....	2	97	10 " .....	121 $\frac{1}{4}$	186 $\frac{1}{4}$
Boots and shoes.....	5	301	9 " 25 minutes..	354 $\frac{1}{4}$	—
Brushes and brooms.....	8	202	10 " .....	252	55 $\frac{1}{4}$
Builders.....	11	221	9 " 50 minutes..	271 $\frac{1}{4}$	86 $\frac{1}{4}$
Carpenters.....	21	226	10 " .....	282	25 $\frac{1}{4}$
Carriages and wagons.....	21	258	10 " .....	322 $\frac{1}{4}$	—
Cheese.....	4	188	10 " 40 minutes..	254 $\frac{1}{4}$	53 $\frac{1}{4}$
Cigar factories.....	13	298	10 " .....	372 $\frac{1}{4}$	—
Clothiers (tailors).....	8	227	10 " 80 minutes..	298	10
Coal mines.....	16	234	12 " .....	351	—
Coopers.....	7	231	10 " 40 minutes..	308	—
Cotton and woollen mills.....	17	254	10 " 85 "	383 $\frac{1}{4}$	—
Copper mines.....	1	154	8 " .....	154	154
Flour mills.....	20	267	11 " 50 minutes..	394	—
Freight cars.....	1	72	10 " .....	90	218
Furniture.....	9	273	10 " .....	841 $\frac{1}{4}$	—
Glass works.....	2	160	9 " 5 minutes..	181 $\frac{1}{4}$	126 $\frac{1}{4}$
Harness and saddlery.....	7	284	10 " 40 "	812	—
Iron Mines.....	2	195	10 " .....	243 $\frac{1}{4}$	64 $\frac{1}{4}$
Lead mines.....	12	269	9 " .....	302 $\frac{1}{4}$	5 $\frac{1}{4}$
Machine shops.....	6	260	10 " .....	325	—
Marble works.....	5	266	9 " 50 minutes..	329 $\frac{1}{4}$	—
Match factories.....	2	189	10 " .....	236 $\frac{1}{4}$	71 $\frac{1}{4}$
Painters.....	10	205	10 " .....	256 $\frac{1}{4}$	51 $\frac{1}{4}$
Planing mills.....	13	260	9 " 40 minutes..	319 $\frac{1}{4}$	—
Printing.....	21	308	9 " 20 "	859 $\frac{1}{4}$	—
Potteries and stoneware.....	8	270	10 " 5 "	340 $\frac{1}{4}$	—
Rolling mills.....	1	72	10 " .....	90	218
Saddle trees.....	2	278	10 " 48 minutes..	872 $\frac{1}{4}$	—
Saw works .....	1	204	9 " .....	229 $\frac{1}{4}$	78 $\frac{1}{4}$
Stone cutters.....	5	256	9 " 50 minutes..	314 $\frac{1}{4}$	—
Stove foundries.....	4	239	10 " .....	298 $\frac{1}{4}$	9 $\frac{1}{4}$
Tanneries.....	2	274	10 " .....	342 $\frac{1}{4}$	—
Tobacco factories.....	9	197	10 " .....	246 $\frac{1}{4}$	61 $\frac{1}{4}$
White lead factories.....	2	298	11 " 50 minutes..	438 $\frac{1}{4}$	—
Zinc works.....	2	801	11 " .....	413 $\frac{1}{4}$	—
Not classified.....	11	273	10 " .....	341 $\frac{1}{4}$	—

The appended table shows the number of employers and employees who favored or opposed a reduction, and those who made no reply :

TABLE XXVI.—HOURS OF LABOR.

Business.	Employers.				Employees.				No answer.
	Number of returns.	In favor of reduction.	Opposed to reduction.	No answer.	Number of returns.	In favor of reduction.	Opposed to reduction.	No answer.	
Agricultural Implements.....	3	2	1	...	...	...	...	...	
Artificial Flowers.....	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	
Bakers and Confectioners.....	6	...	3	3	...	...	...	...	
Blacksmiths.....	21	2	11	8	15	9	2	4	
Blast furnace.....	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	
Boiler works.....	2	2	...	...	1	1	...	2	
Boots and Shoes.....	5	2	2	1	7	2	3	2	
Breweries.....	6	1	2	8	...	...	...	...	
Bricklayers.....	...	...	...	...	19	14	1	4	
Brushes and Brooms.....	8	3	3	2	...	...	...	...	
Carpenters.....	21	5	9	7	41	32	8	1	
Carriages and Wagons.....	21	4	11	6	14	12	1	1	
Cheese manufacturers.....	4	...	2	2	...	...	...	...	
Clerks.....	...	...	...	...	4	2	2	...	
Cigars.....	13	8	3	7	71	52	8	11	
Clothiers (tailors).....	8	1	3	4	18	11	1	1	
Coal mines.....	16	8	4	4	34	28	2	4	
Coopers.....	7	2	3	2	16	15	1	...	
Cotton and Woolen mills.....	17	1	13	3	...	...	...	...	
Copper mining.....	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	
Engineers.....	...	...	...	...	9	7	...	...	
Dry Goods.....	6	...	8	3	...	...	...	2	
Flour mills.....	20	1	10	9	8	3	3	2	
Freight cars.....	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	
Furniture.....	10	2	7	1	9	3	2	4	
Gas works.....	4	...	4	...	...	...	...	...	
Glass works.....	2	2	...	...	...	...	...	5	
Harness and Saddlery.....	7	...	6	1	32	26	1	6	
Iron mines.....	2	...	1	1	20	18	1	5	
Lead mines.....	12	2	4	6	68	58	...	5	
Machine shops.....	6	...	4	2	17	18	2	2	
Marble works.....	5	2	3	...	3	3	...	2	
Match factory.....	2	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	
Painters.....	10	8	5	2	12	7	5	4	
Planing mills.....	18	3	8	2	5	5	...	6	
Plasterers.....	4	1	3	...	17	12	...	5	
Printing.....	21	7	10	4	19	13	2	6	
Potteries and Stoneware.....	8	...	5	3	...	...	...	...	
Railroads.....	9	...	9	...	58	88	14	...	
Rolling mills.....	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	
Saddletrees.....	2	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Saw works.....	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	
Stone cutters.....	5	8	2	...	11	10	1	...	
Stove foundries.....	4	...	2	2	8	8	...	...	
Tanneries.....	2	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	
Teamsters.....	...	...	...	...	3	2	...	1	
Tinners.....	...	...	...	...	2	2	...	4	
Tobacconists.....	9	...	5	4	18	9	...	...	
White lead.....	2	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	
Zinc works.....	2	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	
Laborers.....	...	...	...	...	15	14	...	1	
Not classified.....	11	2	8	1	22	18	1	8	

An examination of the above tables are suggestive as showing in detail the number of employers and employes in favor and opposed to the adoption of the eight hour system in the State. Of the 918 blanks returned, 342 were received from employers and 576 from employes. Of the 342 blanks filled by employers, 67 reported in favor of eight hours and 181 declared themselves opposed to it, while 94 made no report. Of the 576 blanks filled by employes, 437 reported in favor, and 61 against the eight hour system, and 78 giving no answer. In a grand total of 918 returns, 504 reported in favor of eight hours, and 242 against the measure, leaving 172 unable to decide or indifferent on the question.

It may be here stated that nearly all of the returns from employes (61) opposed to the reduction of hours, are so from the belief that it meant a reduction in wages—otherwise they favored it.

#### OPINIONS AND SUGGESTIONS.

In order to present the two sides of the question so that each may be examined on its own merits, those who favor the reduction of the hours of labor (employers and employes) are brought together under one head, and *vice versa*. To avoid repetition many statements, *pro* and *con*, are omitted.

#### EMPLOYERS' OPINIONS.

*Return 1, 313—Carpenter.*—(a). The reduction would make no material change in either prices or trade of any kind, and would be a great advantage to mankind in general. As we have to shorten the days in winter months, why not have it correspondingly in summer?

*Return 131.—(b).* It would be a good thing; the workingmen need more time to improve their minds than they have under the ten hour system.

*Return 375.—(c).* Our mechanics here (Macon City) are sober and faithful, so a reduction in the hours of daily labor would not result in dissipation as in larger cities.

*Return 302.—(e).* The hours of labor are entirely too long; no man can do justice to himself and work ten hours a day. Machinery has so cheapened labor that a man at our business can accomplish more in five hours than he could in ten twenty-five years ago. It would be the greatest boon to workingmen to have an eight hour system. Of course to be successful it must be universal. There are many good reasons in favor of it.

*Return ——(f).* It would induce the laboring classes to secure a home of their own and sufficient time to enable them to put in the balance of the ten hours in beautifying the same, and raise eatables enough to make up for the loss of wages. The laborer that works ten hours a day, after eating his supper and doing his chores, is tired and goes to bed, without looking at his newspaper or his Bible. Consequently the Sabbath must be spent in a hasty perusal of the weekly news and patching up chores that have been neglected during the week.

*Return 499—Cigars.*—The eight hour system would be a benefit to the working classes.

*Return 6—Newspaper Publisher.*—(a). Printers usually work by the piece or by the thousand *ems*, and that is the case with our compositors; they are not obliged to work more than eight hours now. Yet the fact is that the price per thousand has been reduced so low that unless the price was raised they could hardly make a living on reduced time. The wages in this city (Kansas City) are on morning papers, 30 cents per 1,000 *ems*; on evening papers, 20 cents. Seven thousand is a fair day's work. We are not opposed to a reduction of hours.

*Return 1,141.—(b).* If the hours of labor were reduced to eight per day workmen would lose some money at first but in about six months they would make as much as now, because they work by the thousand *ems*, and they would work faster for eight hours than they do for ten.

*Return 763.—(c).* A reduction of the hours of labor, I think, would be good in effect. As it is, labor is bought as cheap as possible. Employers must live. They would be compelled to make about as much in eight hours as they do now in ten; employers would have to pay men by the hour for their services, and would be compelled to collect more for their production.

*Return 1,222—Agricultural Implements.*—(a). Perfectly satisfied with eight hours work per day, but wish it distinctly understood they are only to get eight hours pay.

*Return 1,233.—(b).* It would have a tendency to prevent over production and cause a general result beneficial for the manufacturing interests; provided it was adopted all over the country.

*Return 595—Lumber.*—I think the eight hour system, if once established, a good one, and a blessing to the laboring classes.

*Return 663—Painter.*—(a). It would be conducive to the best interests of mankind.

*Return 657.—(b).* I believe in division of the twenty-four hours into three equal parts; giving 8 hours for manual labor, 8 hours for mental or general information, and 8 hours for rest, and the result would be a blessing to all mankind.

#### EMPLOYES' OPINIONS.

*Return 1,601—Carpenter.*—(a). It would be conducive to better health and longer life and give better and steadier employment through the year. Under the present system many are actually working twelve hours per day; we have to leave our homes at 6 a. m. and do not return until 7 o'clock in the evening.

*Return 298.—(b).* Less wages at first, better afterwards than we have ever known, and it would enhance the wealth of the whole country.

*Return 17.—(c).* I have to walk about six miles to where I work, which compels me to leave at 5:30 a. m. and return at 7:30 p. m. I am in favor of eight hours for work, eight hours for rest and eight hours for mental improvement.

*Return 337.—(d).* It would cause more hands to be employed to do the same quantity of work—an increase of the rate of wages, and it would give the working classes a little chance for recreation.

*Return 329.—(e).* Employment for one-fifth more men, and wages higher, created by the demand for more laborers.

*Return 117.—(f).* It would be a great benefit here (Edina) to men with families. They would then have time to raise a little garden truck which goes a long way in keeping a family.

*Return 1,517.—(g).* Would be a sanitary and financial benefit to the laboring classes.

*Return 1,357.—(h).* The result of a reduction of the hours of labor to eight per day, would take one-fifth more hands to do the work that is now done in ten hours. If we take this one-fifth from the number of idle men, there would not be so much loss of time to the mechanics through their inability to obtain work.

*Return 1,604.—Cigarmaker.*—Less hours will create a demand for more laborers, and the result will be more pay for our work. Common sense will teach that when labor is scarce, wages go up. The only way to accomplish this is to reduce the hours of labor.

*Return 1,577.—Tailor.*—In regard to the eight hour question, it would distribute the work among the workingmen, and give employment to those that are now idle, and in the end would raise our wages.

*Return 1,744.—Coal miner.*—(a). The introduction of the eight hour system would be the best thing for us poor miners, as we are all over-worked, and our work comes by spells, then we try to make all we can by working long hours. The result is sickness, and then comes want and distress, and perhaps death.

*Return 310.—(b).* Eight hours per day would give those men tramping from place to place seeking work, employment. In many places miners work from twelve to fourteen hours per day.

*Return 622.—(c).* The reduction of the hours of labor would necessitate the employment of more hands, and it would be better for the unemployed, even at reduced wages; then laboring men could be more independent, from the fact that corporations would not have so many half starved persons to fall back on in case of a strike, as at present. And another result would be that the workmen would have more time for mental and moral improvement. They would receive as much wages, and more; for there would be more persons enabled to consume the products of labor; the manufacturer would have to increase his facilities to produce more goods; the railroads would have more to do, and I think the argument would apply to all industries in the country.

*Return 167.—Compositor.*—(a). I am in favor of eight hours, provided the pay is not reduced. With concert of action on the part of the employed, this need not follow; hence, I unhesitatingly approve it; fewer would be out of employment, and labor generally, no doubt, would be better paid. The "law of supply and demand" referred to by Mr. Kelly—comparing human labor to wheat, corn and oats, I consider beastly—no other word will express it.

*Return 1,481.—(b).* To our special branch, the eight hour system will never work (although I favor it) until the workingmen will stand by the wheel as "one man." There is too much *self*, existing among the laboring classes to ever accomplish that.

*Return 565.—Pressman.*—There would be more and better work for the number of hours; and an enhancement of health and happiness on account of the recreation.

*Return 568.—Harnessmaker.*—(a). Most men working at our business, work night and day to make a living. This could be avoided by introducing the eight hour system and enforcing it to the letter. Such men as work night and day come to nothing, learn nothing, and are *poor citizens*. The most of them bring up families of ignorant children, who eventually become no better than their parents. These long hours are an injury to the government and the people, and the sooner the law interferes and abates long hours, the better it will be for the masses of the people.

*Return 357.—(b).* If night work was dispensed with, and also a reduction in the hours of labor, it would give more men work in my trade. In this city (St. Louis)

there is a great deal of work done at night that could be done in day time. In our shop the men have quit working at nights, and still they average as much as before. When a man is willing to work at night and makes a big week's wages, the employer will surely cut him down next pay-day.

*Return 354.—(c).* A reduction in the hours of labor would be of great advantage to our trade, as we have a great many harnessmakers who only find about six months' employment in the year.

*Return 570.—(d).* It would give employment to the surplus labor, and improve the same by keeping them from falling into vice, and enable them to support their families.

*Return 902.—Iron miner.*—A reduction of the hours of labor, personally, I approve. If the wages are reduced in proportion to the reduction of hours, a majority of the men employed (especially the married men) would only earn 70 cents per day; they would find it more difficult to get along.

*Return 334.—Machinist.*—The reduction would be beneficial in many ways. It would give thousands of idle men employment. By working ten hours a day a mechanic has little or no time for self-improvement; a person working hard all day and then walking two miles or more to his home at night, makes him often too tired to read the day's paper. They have to retire to renew their strength for the next day's toil. They are also compelled to purchase their necessities after dark, so they can not see what they are buying.

*Return 31.—Painter.—(a).* It would greatly benefit employer and employee; give more time to both for instruction and recreation. By so doing it will reduce ignorance in the working people and the rising generation.

*Return 30.—(b).* It would greatly advance the opportunities of workingmen to learn and elevate themselves; and all those desiring information could have the opportunity to get it. As it is at present, we leave our homes early in the morning and return late at night, so that we have no time for information; and as long as this lasts we shall have no enlightenment in our ranks. If we make or demand it we are cried down as *unreasonable*, but merchants may, with impunity, build up "corners" in merchandise, and we must accept their mandates. They do not stop to consider whether we have the means or not. They say: "That is our price; you can take it at that or leave it." But if we demand an increase for higher wages, then the merchant and his class will say: "You are not worth that, and you can't have it!" But if we secure eight hours as a day's work, we will hit the nail on the head and diminish the over-supply of labor.

*Return 466.—Plasterer.*—Men at my trade are afflicted a great deal with malaria and rheumatism from over-exertion and sudden cooling; and this causes them to spend a goodly portion of their earnings for doctors' bills. To go near a city dispensary they would be treated like dogs. I have seen men after working hours hardly able to walk home. Eight hours would be a great benefit to us.

*Return 1,818.—Mechanic.*—Less hours of labor would check over-production by 20 per cent., and would give employment to every man idle at present, and make consumers of all. It would take the advantage from the employer relying upon the surplus labor to under bid, to keep workingmen and their families from starving. It would improve their political condition, as it would give them more time to study the true character of the different political parties.

*Return 1,471.—Laborer.*—I am decidedly in favor of eight hours as a legal day's work, and would gladly see it enforced and a law passed to punish any infringement of it; eight hours at hard labor per day is exhausting enough for any one.

The following employers and employes expressed their views against the reduction of hours, and their reasons therefor are as follows:

*Blacksmith.—St. Charles.*—(a). The introduction of the eight hour system will not work in this part of the State. In the busy season farmers want their work done at any time of the day.

*Fredericktown.*—(b). Eight hours will not suit in a repairing shop; it might do in a factory manufacturing new work.

*Broom manufacturer.—Clinton.*—Should the hours of labor be reduced the wages would have to be reduced in proportion; then employes could not live on their wages.

*Candy manufacturer.—St. Louis.*—The reduction in the hours of labor would carry with it a reduction of wages. The men do not like this; they do not consider themselves over-worked, and grumble when, on account of dark weather, they can only work three-fourths of a day. They long for the busy season when they can do over-work and swell their little earnings in this way. Of course we speak of our own men. Why should workmen work less hours than their employers? Our motto is, work the men hard and pay them well for it; "they like it."

*Builder.—St. Joseph.*—If men in St. Joseph only work eight hours, those in St. Louis working ten hours can produce goods at less cost, thereby reducing St. Joseph's trade and building up St. Louis. The same thing would occur were the United States to make this a law without the coöperation of other countries. They would get our trade and damage us and tend to throw more of our own laborers out of work.

*Carpenter.—Bowling Green.*—(a). In reducing hours, I do not see any advantage to the laborer. Reduced labor would be reduced wages.

*Rolla.*—(b). Instead of a reduction in labor, we need more money to push forward some enterprising business that will give more employment to hands.

*Sikeston.*—(c). Injurious to the mechanic as well as the employer.

*Hazel Run.*—(d). Reduction of wages and demoralization of labor.

*Cigar Manufacturer.—St. Louis.*—(a). A man working by the piece should have a right to work as long as he likes; those employed by the week or month should not labor longer than ten hours.

*St. Louis.*—(b). We would not consider eight hour work a benefit for the workman, as our trade is light work, mostly standing or sitting at the table. The only reason that would speak for it would be a shorter confinement in the factory or room.

*Flour Mill.—Hazel Run.*—(a). Our mill is a custom grist mill, although we do some merchant work. The eight hour system would not suit our business at all, and I have never had anyone ever offer any objection to work ten hours a day; of course, the less hours worked the less wages paid.

*Boonville.*—(b). If the hours per day were reduced to eight the mill would have to stop before night or hire additional help for the balance of the day, either of which would be disastrous to the business.

*Ashley.*—(c). We are doing custom and merchant work; set apart two days in the week for custom work, and often have to run 15 hours per day. By adopting the eight hour system we could not do the work required.

*Printing.—St. Louis.*—(a). Beneficial to the few, detrimental to the many.

*St. Joseph.*—(b). Reduce earnings, and require more workmen. I am not in favor of it.

*Tobacco Manufacturer.*—*St. Louis.*—(a). A reduction of hours would be a reduction of yearly earnings. A strong man or woman can easily work ten hours per day and get the benefit of the extra two hours, which, at the age of fifty, if saved, will carry them through old age. Very few people in any occupation can afford to stop at eight hours, as sixteen hours of rest and recreation daily, added to Sundays and holidays, is about two hours more than is necessary for health or pleasure. If business could be so arranged as to be equally distributed through every week of the year, eight hours might accomplish it all, but the demand is so irregular that it would be found necessary to work ten hours a greater part of the year.

*Chillicothe.*—(b). We are opposed to the eight hour system, believing it would encourage idleness.

*Cotton and Woolen Mills.*—*Huntsville.*—(a). I prefer 11½ hours per day and five-days for a week's work. I think the adoption of this system would be of great benefit to the operatives as well as employers, as it would give more time for rest and recreation. As far as my observation goes for the last 40 years in our trade, very few persons have constitutions strong enough to work ten hours ever day in the week. It is too much labor, both physical and mental, and too little rest.

*Carthage.*—(b). In our opinion, the State requires friendly legislation to induce manufacturers here. Our employes work cheerfully, and, lately, overtime; for which they receive extra pay. Eight hours labor per day would work injustice to western manufacturers and impair the employers.

*Shawneetown.*—(c). If such a law be passed in the State of Missouri, and other States not adopting the same, it would prove a detriment to the interests of our manufacturing industries in the State.

*Bagging.*—*St. Louis.*—A reduction of hours, to nine-tenths of the laboring classes, would be injurious to themselves and families, and a harvest to whisky saloons. They would earn less and spend more money during the idle hours than under the present system. A reduction of hours necessitates a reduction of pay, which is, what next?

#### EMPLOYES.

*Cigarmaker.*—*St. Joseph.*—Eight hours would necessarily be detrimental, unless a raise in wages could be obtained.

*Blacksmith.*—*Hannibal.*—If employers could be compelled to run their establishments only eight hours per day, it might be beneficial. But whether we work seven or eleven hours per day, all a laboring man gets is enough to eat.

*Miller.*—*West Plains.*—My opinion is that the eight hour system would not result in any benefit to our trade.

*Laborer.*—*Howell county.*—(a). A reduction in wages would be our ruin.

• *Milan.*—(b). The less hours we work the less pay we get.

*St. Louis.*—(c). Less earnings, and that means starvation.

*Salesmen.*—*Greenfield*—Impossible in my bussiness.

*Marble cutter.*—*St. Joseph*—It would result in a reduction in wages.

*Tin smith.*—*Palmyra.*—It means another reduction in our wages. We earn little enough now.

The following extract from a lecture delivered by Wendell Phillips, in Mercantile Hall, St. Louis, January 22, 1872, reflects forcibly and truly the views of the working-classes of the country on the effects of

long hours on their physical and mental powers. After commenting on the condition of the laboring classes, the lecturer said: "I should be far within bounds, if I said that twenty millions wake every morning, and spend their waking hours—the whole of them—in industrious and faithful toil, merely to support the body. That is no exaggeration, you will certainly allow. The man that rises between six and seven to go into a New England mill, and leaves it perhaps at seven in the evening, or reaches his home at seven, and has to spend another hour in preparing for to-morrow, and the man out here on the prairies that rises in the same way—no matter how fertile your soil—it is no exaggeration to say that, taking the average of the States, one-half of our christendom population simply exists to keep their body alive. Well, now, in the nineteenth century of christendom, I proclaim that *an infamous result*. I affirm that the working masses have a right to indict the civilization that produces it. No matter what may be your theory of finance, no matter what may be your criticism of shiftlessness, indolence, lack of foresight, vice—combine them all, it never could have been supposed that in the nineteenth century the wit of man would have remained so dull and stagnant that such a statement could be truthfully made. *Now why is it*, that if the laboring class be four-fifths of society, the drunkenness of the laboring class is ninety-nine one-hundredths? Why is it that the workingmen are the seed-plots? Why? Because, when a man has spent twelve hours in toil merely to make his body, simply for his bread, at night, as it closes in, there is no elasticity of thought, no buoyancy of physical power, no healthful wakefulness that would lead him to share an intellectual pleasure. He cannot sit down to read; he cannot amuse himself with the higher powers of his nature. Sleep or some gross physical stimulus is the only thing available to him, and he sinks into its arms as his only refuge from the painful contemplation of the dread routine of a daily life like that. No man has a right to blame him. The society that condemned him to toil all his waking hours, handed him over to his lower appetites, food for their triumph, and any man accustomed to deal with that great cancer in city life which makes demagogueism possible, knows that it is only to be dealt with by lifting these large masses into the capacities of higher pleasures, more intelligent amusements and grander opportunity, leisure and its results."



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PART X.

TRADES UNIONS, STRIKES  
AND  
ARBITRATION.

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## TRADES UNIONS, STRIKES, ARBITRATION AND CONCILIATION.

Combinations of working men, when taking a permanent form, governed by fixed rules, and with a view to the protection and advancement of their industrial interests, are generally known as Trades Unions or Trade Societies. While the primary objects of trades unions, originally, were limited to resistance to reduction in wages, and readiness, through organized effort, to obtain an advance when improvement in trade would justify such a step, the readiness with which employers seized the opportunity when trade became slack to punish the more forward and influential in the craft, soon taught the workmen that if they would make secure the first fruits of organized efforts, they must supplement their first work by limiting the supply, as near as may be, to the demand. This could only be accomplished by the adoption of a rule limiting the number of apprentices to the demands upon the trade. This rule has been a sort of battle ground between labor and capital, and the subject of more disputes and animadversions than perhaps any other rule adopted by trades unions.

England may very properly be designated the land of trades unions, since it is there that they have become so powerful, and that within less than half a century, as to compel the government to listen to their demands for a perfect and absolute recognition of the principle of the equality of labor and capital before the law. But to return to the rules in force in trades unions. \*By statute of 2d and 3d Henry VI, it was premised (taken for granted) that "artificers, handicraftsmen and laborers have made confederacies and promises (formed trade unions for mutual assistance), and have sworn a mutual oath not only that they should not meddle one with another's work, and perform and finish that another hath begun, but also to constitute and appoint how much work they should do in a day, and what hours and times they shall

work." Against this and similar movements on the part of the laboring classes in those days, laws were passed providing "severe penalties, the punishment for the third offense," against the above law "being loss of ears and infamy." Such was the state of the law down to the year 1824, when what is known as the Combination Acts was passed. By the passage of that act (1824), "twenty-eight acts, representing the wisdom of Parliaments in the reigns of ten kings and queens," were repealed. "While the law of England thus, by direct inhibition, sought to reduce to the minimum competition for labor, no statute, so far as I have observed, made even the decent pretense of restraining masters from combinations, until the beginning of the present century. "We have no acts of Parliament against combining to lower the price of work," said Adam Smith, "but many against combining to raise it." However, the statute of 40th George III, by which \* "all contracts, covenants and agreements whatever, in writing or not in writing, made or to be made, by or between masters or other persons for reducing the wages of workmen, or adding to or altering the usual hours or time of working, or for increasing the quantity of work," "were declared unlawful, under a penalty of £20," may be commended to the consideration of American legislators, in view of the many laws inimical to labor now upon the statute books of many States.

As an important element in harmonizing the conflicting interests of workmen and employers, Mr. J. D. Prior, general secretary of the Amalgamated Society of Carpenters and Joiners, points to the "amicable relationship" existing between the two parties, as the result of the thorough but separate organization in Manchester, and *vice versa*, disagreements resulting in strikes and suspension of work in Liverpool as the result of disorganization. Another result material is the higher and steadier rate of wages ruling in the former place, as compared with the latter, though seventy-five cents would take them in 40 minutes from Liverpool to Manchester. It is, however, to the transactions of their Trades Union Congress that we are to look for the legitimate results of the influence of trades union principles, in their social, industrial and political aspects and bearing. The thirteenth annual Trade Union Congress was held in Dublin, September 13th to 18th inclusive. In his opening address, the chairman, Mr. H. R. Slatter, Manchester said "that the fundamental principle of trades unionism was to claim the right to discuss and fix proper prices for labor. They knew what the unions had done for them in the past, they *understood thoroughly*

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\**Ibid*, page 363.

† Fourteenth Annual Report, 1873.

the evils they were protected from in the present, and they believed they had great possibilities of advantage for them in the future, and therefore it would be their duty, as it would be their interest, to see that they did not allow the strength and integrity of their union to be in the slightest degree impaired. Among other measures approved by the Congress was a resolution "congratulating the trades of the country on the progress which had been made in Parliament during the past session on the question of compensation for injuries to workmen," but the act being defective, the Congress declared that "while accepting the act passed by the government as an installment, no act can be permanently satisfactory unless it places the workmen in the same position as regards compensation for injuries as any member of the general public, and at the same time precludes them from contracting themselves out of their legal liability." "A letter was read from Mr. MacDonald, M. P., urging the delegates to petition against the power given to the employers to contract themselves out of the act." "Resolutions were also passed in favor of patent law reform, the abolition of imprisonment for debt, the direct representation of labor in Parliament, and reform on the land question, against over-time, and urging upon all trades, the duty of uniting for the protection of existing hours (the nine hour system) where already reduced, and taking the earliest opportunity of equalizing them with the lowest basis attained." The importance of legislation on questions of this character, few, probably, will be disposed to question, still less could the fact be disputed that but for the energy, persistency and combined efforts of the trades unions, the social, moral and political condition of the working classes would be far below the present standard.

#### TRADES UNIONS IN THE UNITED STATES.

If we except a few cases, notably among which may be mentioned the iron and steel workers, stove molders, glass blowers and glass workers in its different branches, trades unionism has not made the progress in the United States that it has in England, or even in France. Various causes may be assigned for this, prominent among which may be noticed the rapid development of a new country in material improvement, thus furnishing new avenues and an outlet for the surplus labor of the more densely peopled portion of the country. Another and well understood cause, is the high rate of wages which has heretofore ruled in all departments of labor, skilled and unskilled, and which has made the suffering and want to which the working classes of the old country have been subjected, unknown to their highly favored fellow-workers of the United States. Still, with all their short comings, the

Trades Unions of the United States have not been without their influence in checking the encroachments and aggressions of capital, and in securing some legislation for relief and protection. Though the information, as to the extent to which labor is organized in this country, is extremely meagre and unsatisfactory, a list of the organized trades which have had a national organization since 1859, is furnished in the first annual report of the Ohio Labor Bureau, as follows:

Machinists and blacksmiths, printers (typographical), iron molders, Knights of St. Crispin (shoemakers,) Daughters of St. Crispin, coopers, iron and steel heaters, puddlers, rollers and catchers, bricklayers, painters, carpenters, plasterers, hatters, morrocco dressers, tailors, locomotive engineers, locomotive firemen, cabinetmakers, carriagemakers, cigarmakers, coal miners, ship carpenters, railroad conductors, train men (railroad), and glass blowers.

Mr. A. Strasser, President of the Cigarmaker's International Union of America, furnishes the Bureau with a list of trades, with a national organization in 1880, as follows: Amalgamated association of iron, steel and tin workers, locomotive engineers, iron molders, cigarmakers, granite cutters, locomotive firemen, carpenters and joiners, furniture workers, painters, coopers, machinists and blacksmiths, and the International Labor Union of America.

#### TRADES UNIONS IN MISSOURI.

In the month of September a circular blank was mailed by the Bureau to every trade and labor organization in the State, whose address could be obtained; the information sought is best explained by the following, which is a copy of the blank issued:

STATE OF MISSOURI,  
BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS, }  
St. Louis, Sept. 25, 1880. }

This blank is issued in compliance with the law of the State, creating a Bureau of Labor Statistics [approved May 19, 1879], which provides as follows, etc.:

[Instructions for filling out and mailing the blank were here inserted].

W. H. HILKENE, Commissioner.

1. Name of organization ?
2. Who are eligible for membership ?
3. Date of organization ?
4. Is your organization incorporated ?
5. Number of men in your calling, in your city or town ; number of women ?

6. Number employed at date of return?
7. Number of unemployed at date of return?
8. Number of workshops or employers in your trade in your city?
9. Present average wages per day, day work?
10. Present average wages per day, piece work?
11. Give average number of weeks worked by those employed at your calling for year ending July 1, 1880?
12. Was your organization in any strikes from July 1, 1879, to July 1, 1880? If so, how many; cause; date; duration; result?
13. Have you a special fund for relief of sick members, or burial of deceased members?
14. Give amount of receipts and disbursements of your organization for the year ending July 1, 1880, as follows: Gross receipts; running expenses; relief; funeral expenses; death benefits; strikes; balance on hand?
15. What are the prospects of employment in 1880, as compared with 1879?
16. Recommend, in "remarks," at close of this blank, any legislation which you think would be beneficial to your particular craft or workmen generally.

#### REMARKS.

Taking into consideration the earnest demand made by the laboring classes of the State for information in regard to their industrial and social condition, the fewness of the replies received in proportion to the number of blanks distributed will no doubt attract the attention of intelligent workingman. The questions propounded were not framed with a view of prying into the secrets of any organization, but to elicit only the information that would be of general interest. The workingmen of the State and, indeed, of the entire country, expect as full and complete a report of the condition of labor in the State as the efforts and investigations of the Bureau can furnish, but to make it such the workingmen must co-operate and supply the material. In response to blanks distributed, the following are the unions that have responded.

*Brass Finishers and Molders' Union, St. Louis.*—Date of organization, March, 1879; number of men engaged in the trade in St. Louis, 40, who, at date of return, were all employed; number of workshops, 6; wages range from \$2.00 to \$2.75 per day for day work, and \$3.25 per day for piece work; all are reported as having worked full time with

the exception of a five weeks' strike for an advance of wages, which was gained; prospects for employment in 1880, as compared with 1879, are "superior, plenty of work and scarcity of hands." The union has no fund for the relief of sick or burial of deceased members.

*Cigarmakers' Union No. 40, Sedalia*.—Organized in September, 1889; number of men engaged in the trade, 18; women, none; number employed at date of return, 13; average wages per day, \$1.40. No strikes have occurred during the year. The organization has no fund for relief of sick, or burial of deceased members. Prospects for employment in 1880, as compared with 1879, "about 10 per cent. better."

*Cigarmakers' Union No. 95, St. Joseph*.—Organized Nov. 4, 1879. All journeymen cigarmakers are eligible for membership; number of men engaged in the trade, 41; women, 6; number employed at date of return, 39 men and 6 women; number of workshops, 16; average wages per day, \$2.00; number of weeks employed in the year, 51. The union has no beneficial features attached, "but expects to have soon." Prospects for employment, compared with 1879, "good."

*Cigarmakers' Union No. 102, Kansas City*.—Date of organization, 1879. "All that wish to join are eligible to membership;" number of men engaged in the trade, 70; all employed at date of return; no strike and no beneficial features. Prospects for employment, compared with 1879, "better."

*Cigarmakers' Union No. 44, St. Louis*.—Reorganized in 1877; number of men engaged in the trade, estimated at 700; number of women, 2; nearly all were employed at date of return; average weekly wages, \$9.00; average number of weeks employed in the year, 46. After many fruitless efforts to settle the question without stopping work, the union ordered a strike, August 15, 1879, for the purpose of securing a more perfect uniformity of prices in the trade. While the prices paid for making some cigars barely paid the workman five dollars a week, the prices paid for making the better grades were more satisfactory. The advance demanded for the latter grades did not exceed ten per cent., while the advance asked for inferior grades ranged from seventy-five to ninety per cent., thus raising the wages of the poorest paid workman from \$4.00 and \$5.00 per week to \$8.00 and \$9.00. Some of the employers conceded the advance in a week or two; others held out from ten to eighteen weeks. The union finally succeeded. Not to make two bites of a cherry, the union determined on sweeping reform. Another evil which was fast becoming intolerable was the practice introduced by some manufacturers, compelling the men to take their wages in cigars or meal tickets, and disposing of them as they saw fit. For the protec-

tion of those manufacturers who did not resort to this practice, and who paid "union prices," the union brought out a "union label," which was given free to all manufacturers paying union prices. The labels are pasted on each box of cigars so that the public may have the means of knowing the employers who pay union prices and employ union men.

*Carpenters and Joiners' Protective Union No. 1, St. Louis.*—Date of organization, November 1, 1879; "competent workmen are only eligible to membership; number of men engaged in the trade, 2,500 (estimated); nearly all employed at date of return; number of workshops, 223; average wages per day, \$250 (union allows no piece work); number of weeks employed in the year, 41. A strike for an advance of 50 cents per day was inaugurated April 1, 1880; result, "gained the demand." The union has a special fund for relief of sick members. Prospect for employment in 1880, "much better" than in 1879. The following remarks are taken from the return:

"We think that mechanics ought to be able to collect their wages when earned. The present lien law is too slow and expensive to the mechanic, even if he gets his money. We would like to see the employer made to pay for the time lost during the progress of the suit for wages."

*Carriagemakers' Protective Union No 1, St. Louis.*—Organized March 5, 1880; number of men engaged in the trade, 500; all journeymen carriagemakers are eligible to membership; average wages per day, \$1.75; average weeks worked in the year, 47. The union reports a fund for sick members. More work and more wages in 1880, as compared with 1879.

*Stone Masons' Union No 2, St. Louis.*—Organized June 27, 1879; number of men employed in the trade, 450; average wages, \$2.50 per day; number of weeks employed, 35. One strike is reported in the trade for an advance of wages, on March 1, 1880, lasting one week, when the employers conceded the demand. No special fund for relief of sick members, or otherwise. Prospects for employment in 1880 are "better than in 1879."

*Paper Hangers' Union, St. Louis.*—Organized February 22, 1880; all practical workmen eligible to membership; number of persons engaged in the trade, 100; number of employers, 21; average wages per day, \$2.00; piece work, \$3.00. A fund for the relief of sick, or burial of deceased members, is one of the features of the union. Prospects of employment in 1880, "good."

*Wagonmakers' Union No. 1, St. Louis.*—Date of organization, January 23, 1880; all wood workers in the trade are eligible for membership; number of men engaged in trade, 250; all employed at date of

return; number of workshops, 13; average wages per day, \$2.00; average weeks worked during the year, 46. On February 16, 1880, a strike was inaugurated for an advance of wages, which terminated in 16 days in favor of the employes. No special fund for relief of members. Prospects for employment, compared with 1879, "the same."

*Journeymen Bricklayers' Union No. 1, St. Louis.*—Organized in 1865, and re-organized in 1879; admits all practical workmen; number of men engaged in the trade, 600; and were nearly all employed at date of return, at an average of \$3.50 per day; average number of weeks employed, 37. A strike for an advance of 50 cents per day was inaugurated May 1, 1880, lasting only one week, and resulting in favor of the employes. The union, on the death of a member, pays \$50.00 for funeral expenses. The prospect for employment in 1880, as compared with 1879, is "much better."

*Machinery Molders' Union No. 59, St. Louis.*—Organized September, 1864; admits all journeymen that have "served four years at the trade; must be of good moral character, and capable of commanding average wages;" number of men employed at the trade, 350; number employed at date of return, 325; unemployed, 25; number of workshops, 20; average wages for day work, \$2.50; piece work, \$4.50; number of weeks worked during the year, 45. The union has a special fund set aside for relief of members.

*Coopers' Union No. 1, St. Louis.*—Organized in 1872; admits all journeymen coopers; the number of persons engaged in the trade is given at 1,200; number of workshops, 46; average wages per week, day work, \$12.00; piece work, \$1.65; average weeks worked, 43. A strike for an increase of 3 cents per barrel on common work (mostly flour barrels) was inaugurated July 3, 1879, which lasted for 9 weeks, and failed in the end. A number of employers acceded to the demand of the coopers, while only a few stubbornly refused to grant the advance asked for. After the union had expended over \$3,000.00 for the support of members during the strike, and finding that the funds were nearly exhausted, declared the strike at an end; the result was that those employers who had granted the increase, reduced the men to the old figure.

*Cigarmakers' Union No. 76, Hannibal.*—Organized September 14, 1880; admits all practical workmen to membership; number of men engaged in the trade, 10; all employed; number of workshops in the city, 6; average wages per week, \$8.00. No strikes have occurred during the year. Prospects for employment, "bright for the future."

*Boilermakers' Mutual Aid Association, St. Louis.*—Date of organization, June 10, 1878. All practical boilermakers are eligible to

membership; number of men engaged in the trade, 126; number of workshops, 5. All the workmen are reported in employment at date of return, at an average of \$2.00 per day; number of weeks employed during the year, 40. A strike for an increase of wages was inaugurated in June, 1880, which was successful after two days' duration. The association has a special fund for relief of sick or burial of deceased members. Prospect for employment in 1880, as compared with 1879, "superior, plenty of work but wages low."

*Harnessmakers' Association, St. Louis.*—Organized May 1, 1878; admits all journeymen working at the trade; number of men engaged in the trade, 480, who were all employed at date of return; number of workshops, 73; average wages per day, for day work, \$2.00; piece work per day, \$1.75; average weeks worked during year, 48. A three days' strike in the fall of 1879, and a two weeks' strike in the spring of 1880, against a reduction of wages, are reported successful. The association has no fund for the relief of members, but "expects to establish such a fund soon." Prospects for employment in 1880, "first-class; the shops are all working and more hands needed."

*Typographical Union No. 8, St. Louis.*—Reorganized August 11, 1877; admits "all practical printers who have served five years at the trade; number of men engaged in the trade, 525; number of women, 35; number employed at date of return, men, 275; women, 15; average wages per day, day work, \$2.60; piece work, from \$2.00 to \$3.50; average weeks worked during year, \$40. "The Union appropriates \$75.00 out of the general fund for the burial of a deceased member." "The general prospect for employment has improved considerably and is 40 per cent. better than last year (1879)." A strike in October, 1880, against a reduction from 38 to 25 cents per 1,000 ems, on the St. Louis Times, worked disastrously, in one sense, to both parties. The firmness of the Union deprived the proprietors of the necessary assistance in getting out the paper, and at the present date it is published from two other offices.

*Cigarmakers' Union No. 23, North Springfield.*—Organized November 18, 1879; admits all journeymen cigarmakers; number of men engaged in the trade, 23; number employed at date of return, 18; number of workshops, 4; average wages per day, \$1.50; average number of weeks employed during year, 50. No special fund for relief of members, but "intend to adopt one." Prospect for employment, compared with 1879, is "same as previous year."

*Typographia No. 3 (German Printers), St. Louis.*—Date of organization February, 1873; admits all practical workmen. Number of men engaged in the trade, 120; women, none; average wages per day

for day work, \$2.00; piece work, \$2.25; number of workshops, 11. The organization has a fund for burial of deceased members. Prospects for employment in 1880, "better."

*Journeymen Painters' Union, St. Louis.*—Date of organization, February 29, 1880; all practical house painters are admitted to membership; number of men engaged in the trade, 700 (estimated); employed at date of return (December 6, 1880), 400; number of employers, 125; average wages per day, \$1.75; average number of weeks worked in year, 34. No strikes are reported. Prospects of employment, "50 per cent. better than in 1879."

*Knights of St. Crispin (Shoemakers), St. Louis.*—Reorganized October 15, 1879; admits all persons (male) 18 years of age, having worked two years at the trade, to membership; number of men engaged in the trade, 320; women, 240; number employed at date of return, not known; number of workshops (factory work), 15; average wages per day, day work, \$1.50; piece work, \$1.75, average weeks worked during year, 48. The association has no fund for burial of deceased or relief of sick members; prospect for employment in 1880, "improving." A strike against a reduction of wages, in January, 1880, lasting for several months, was lost. The return says: "Any legislation that would tend to do away with the prison contract system, would be of the greatest benefit to our trade, for when the question of wages comes up between employer and employe, the employer's "war cry" is that they have to compete with firms having prison contracts."

#### ARBITRATION.

The investigation and determination of a cause or matter in controversy by an unofficial person, or persons mutually chosen by the contending parties, is the definition given for the word arbitration. Unfortunately in this country, in trade disputes between employers and employes, the medium of mutually choosing a board of arbitration to investigate and determine the cause or matter under dispute, is hardly ever resorted to. A demand on the part of the employes for an increase of wages, or a reduction on the part of the employer, is made without the least warning on either side, and which, in nine cases out of ten, is followed by a strike, the result being, in most instances, disastrous to both employer and employe. But, said Mr. George Odger, before a representative meeting at Sheffield, in the year 1866: "With the principles of strikes I have no sympathy, but look upon them as a sad necessity—as a two-edged instrument which is dangerous to use, and ought to be avoided." This view has steadily been grow-

ing among the more intelligent workmen, who have looked to a peaceable and just settlement of strikes. While it is true that there are only a few instances on record where employes proposed to settle disputes or strikes by arbitration in this and many other States, it is equally true that in every case the employes met with *no* encouragement from employers, but received such answers as "no hireling shall run my business," "we prefer to manage our own business," etc.

In England, boards of arbitration for settling trade disputes between employer and employe, have been successfully established, and no other method has yet been discovered that yields such grand results. There are no good reasons for doubt that the same results may not be attained here, if carried out in the manner and style intended by its friends, instead of the old brute-force plan of striking. It is true that strikes in this State have never arrived at the magnitude that they have reached in the New England States, and may be accounted for on the ground that our manufacturing industries are, as yet, only in their infancy. This fact, however, should not prevent us from establishing any mode or principle that would settle disputes more amicably than by strikes.

That large sums of money are lost on both sides, and much suffering caused by strikes which might be prevented by resorting to the amicable method of arbitration is not denied, but employers, as we have indicated at the beginning of this chapter, are in most cases too stubborn to concede to labor the right to have anything to say to fix its own remuneration until compelled to yield through fear of being subjected to greater loss or bankruptcy.

Arbitration has been and is yet one of the fundamental principles of many trades unions, and while an imperative law binds the members from striking before the matter under dispute is brought before the committee on arbitration, it in no way binds the employers to the principle.

Question 14, on employer's general blank No. 2, was inserted with a view to ascertain the opinions of employers in regard to "arbitration as a means of settling disputes with employes." The returns show the following result:

*Brewery*.—"Never have any disputes in our trade."

*Candy Manufacturer*.—"Never had any strikes in our factory; men are glad to work for the wages we pay them."

*Carriage Manufacturers*.—1169—"Favorable." 1370—"Arbitration ought to be accepted by both parties; we have no experience in this particular; we pay good wages and have no strikes." 1061—"The most sensible employed." 1042—"Whenever an employe does not give

satisfaction I discharge him; carriage makers do not strike." 1199—"Best way." 1166—"No hireling ought to be allowed to run his employer's business." 1062—"If employes are intelligent it is the best way, but if not let them go and do better." 1033—"Have not had any strikes, although I think arbitration is the best mode." 505—"Good."

*Carpenter*—"The only true way to settle the matter."

*Furniture Manufacturers*.—1296—"Not practicable." 1278—"Do my own arbitration." 1464—"If employes can do better than we pay then they must look to their own interest; arbitration by third party makes it worse."

*Wire-work*.—"Depends on who the arbitrators are and by whom selected."

*Foundries and Machine Shops*.—1152—"We prefer managing our own business." 1236—"Don't like it." 1243—"If my business justifies I always advance employes' wages before asked to do so."

*Wire Mill*.—"Favor arbitration."

*Iron Railing Manufacturer*.—"I think it a very good way."

*Plow Manufacturer*.—"Don't amount to anything; I run my own business or quit."

*Iron Mines*.—1031—"The best for all interested."

*Blast Furnace*.—"Do not like it." 1067—"Laborers and employers should adjust their own matters."

*Lead Mining and Smelting*.—1451—"Never had any trouble; no occasion to study the matter." 1391—"It depends altogether on the nature of the dispute." 1388—"The best way." 1382—"Think it the best possible means to settle disputes; I always do so." 1388—"Discharge them and hire them over is the best way." 1399—"It is best for all concerned." 79—"I could not consent to arbitration as a means to settle disputes for many reasons; the two principal are: 1st. There never would be satisfaction with the employes. 2d. There would be go-betweens and jobbers on shares of gains, etc."

*Newspaper Publishers*.—1020—"Favorable." 1026—"The best method." 1012—"Depends upon the cause; arbitration may settle a difference where no principle is involved, generally, however, the best way." 1102—"We never needed it and therefore have no opinion to offer on the question; we think, though, it is better than strike." 1103—"Favorable." 1141—"Good." 1018—"It is a good way to settle disputes relating to employment, and has good results." 1022—"They should make their own contracts and stick to them." 1018—"The most equitable; it considers the equity of both sides." *Printers and Binders*.—1110—"First rate method." 1148—"In favor of arbitration."

1374—"Always make wages satisfactory to help and we never have any disputes."

*Railroad Companies.*—(a)—"Think it a good plan." (b)—"Let labor and its employers settle their own difficulties." (c)—"In many cases arbitration is the best means to settle disputes."

*Street Railway Co.*—"Don't exactly know; never gave it any attention; probably good."

*Tobacco Factory.*—"We pay liberal wages to tried and trusty help, and therefore have no disputes to settle."

*Cotton and Woolen Mills.*—1353—"Very good." 1316—"Good." 1315—"It's a good way." 1378—"Do not believe in it." 1356—"Favorable."

*Shoe Manufacturer.*—"Am opposed to arbitration; think disputes can be best settled direct."

*White Lead Factories.*—1386—"Very good." 1321—"Think it best plan."

*Zinc Works.*—"Would be the best way if an amicable result could be obtained, but think it very difficult."

*Gas Companies.*—1465—"It's all right, probably, if both parties agree to the method of settling disputes." 1478—"Correct plan." 1479—"We believe in paying fair wages promptly in cash; if men can do better let them go."

*Glass Works*—"I think well of it and have offered to submit the case to such."

*Marble Yard*—"My opinion is that arbitration is the best method."



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PART XI.

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CO-OPERATION.



## CO-OPERATION.

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Co-operation has been defined as the new industrial system which is to harmonize the conflicting interests of labor and capital, by teaching the laborer that labor is the source and foundation of capital. In his interesting history of the Rochdale Pioneers, George J. Holyoake, says: "They were opposed to capital absorbing all the profits arising from labor, and to hit upon a plan that would secure to labor a more equitable distribution of its products, was the problem they had to solve."

"It is not co-operation where a few persons join for the purpose of making a profit from cheap purchases, by which only a portion of them benefit ; co-operation is where the whole of the produce is divided. What is wanted, is that the whole of the working classes should partake of the profits of labor. We want that the whole produce of labor shall, so far as the nature of things shall admit, be divided among the contributors and producers."

This is the famous definition of the principle, given by John Stuart Mill, and which, in consequence of its clear and comprehensive character, has been frequently quoted by writers and speakers on the subject. Its reproduction here will enable those who, in the State of Missouri, believe that they are carrying out the principle, in one or the other form of production or distribution, to ascertain the correctness of their own knowledge and understanding of the principle.

### CO-OPERATION IN MISSOURI.

The results of incipient efforts to collect information relating to the social and industrial condition of the people must, from various causes, be characterized by incompleteness. This observation applies with peculiar force to the efforts made by the Bureau to collect information from the working classes in their varied and frequent attempts

to improve their social and domestic condition. Deprived of the advantages of a practical knowledge of business affairs and methods, and of the intellectual training essential to success, failure follows as a legitimate consequence, and distrust of their own abilities and lack of mutual confidence is followed by demoralization and indisposition to further effort. The natural result of such failures manifests itself in the disinclination shown to communicate the slightest information of their reverses and disappointments.

As the progress of the co-operative movement in England brought out from the musty shelves of old libraries, the almost forgotten co-operative lore of the past, so, no doubt, will future reports of this Bureau be enriched with authentic details of the fruitless efforts made in the way of co-operation in this State. However, the efforts of the Bureau to obtain information of the extent to which co-operation, real or assumed, is carried out in the State, has not been altogether fruitless or unsatisfactory.

In compliance with a request from the Bureau for a list of such associations as were incorporated under the name "Co-operative," or of which that term constituted a part, the following communication, accompanying the list, was received from the State department:

STATE OF MISSOURI,  
CITY OF JEFFERSON, Sept. 13, 1880. }

W. H. HILKENE, *Commissioner of Bureau of Labor Statistics, St. Louis, Mo.:*

SIR—In accordance with your request, herewith find list of names of co-operative and aid societies of this State, that have filed in this department articles of association under the general law of the State governing the formation of manufacturing and business companies. As to whether or not there are any others doing business under the authority of the State grange this department is not advised.

Very respectfully,

MICH'L K. McGRATH,  
Secretary of State.

Names of grange stores and co-operative associations incorporated under the general incorporation law of Missouri that have filed articles of association in the office of the Secretary of State, and have received certificates of corporate existence, up to Sept. 13, 1880:

Audrain county Co-operative Society.....	Mexico.
Birdseye Ridge Grange Association.....	Birdseye Ridge.
Co-operative Mercantile Company of St. Louis.....	St. Louis.
Farmers Mutual Aid Association.....	Stewartsville.
Falmouth Patrons Association.....	Troy.
Grange Co-operative Association.....	California.
Grange Co-operative Association of Cape Girardeau.....	Cape Girardeau.
Grange Store.....	Sedalia.
Henry County Co-operative Store Company.....	Clinton.
Howard County Co-operative Association.....	Fayette.
Jackson Co-operative Association.....	Jackson.
Jackson County Co-operative Association of Patrons of Husbandry.	Independence.
Jamestown Mercantile Company.....	Jamestown.
Lawrence County Co-operative Association.....	Verona.
Marion County Co-operative Association.....	Palmyra.
North Missouri Co-operative Association of Moberly.....	Moberly.
Oak Ridge Co-operative Association No. 1,022.....	Oak Ridge.
O'Fallon Co-operative Association.....	O'Fallon.
Patron Co-operative Agency and Grange Store of Knob Noster.....	Knob Noster.
Pike County Patrons Association.....	Louisiana.
Portland Co-operative Association.....	Portland.
St. Louis County Grange Co-operative Store. ....	St. Louis.
Sturgeon Co-operative Association No. 584.....	Sturgeon.
Shelbina Grange Store.....	Shelbina.
Tipton Grange Co-operative Store.....	Tipton.
Windsor Grange Store.....	Windsor.
Chouteau Co-operative Association.....	St. Louis.
Industrial Co-operative Supply Association.....	St. Louis.
Independence Manufacturers and Savings Association.....	Independence.
Kansas City Manufacturers Aid Association.....	Kansas City.
Mutual Workingmens Union.....	St. Louis.
Manufacturers Union Company.....	St. Louis.
Peoples Mutual Benefit Union.....	St. Louis.
St. Louis Co-operative Association.....	St. Louis.
Coopers Co-operative Association.....	St. Louis.

Having reason to believe that the actual number of grange stores and associations and agencies for business purposes was much larger than that furnished by the State Department, correspondence was opened with Mr. Henry Eshbaugh, Worthy Master of the State Grange, and an interview had with Mr. A. J. Child, Purchasing Agent, whose office is located in St. Louis.

The additional list of grange stores and agencies, kindly furnished by Mr. Child, confirms that belief, and enables the Bureau to present as complete a report of the efforts to establish co-operation in this State, as the difficulties and obstacles incident to first attempts at collecting statistics will permit.

Referring to the list furnished by the Secretary of State, the whole number reported as having received certificates of corporate existence up to September 13, 1880, is 37. Of this number 25 are strictly grange stores, or associations for commercial business. Seven of these twenty-five are found in the list furnished by Mr. A. J. Child, whose list contains the names and localities of 55 grange stores and managers. Deducting seven therefrom, already mentioned, the net total of grange stores and agencies in the State is sixty-six (66). Of this number ten

(10) responded to the request of the Bureau for information, and answering, so far as they were able, the questions in the blank mailed to them.

The following is a copy of the questions :

**DISTRIBUTIVE CO-OPERATION.**

1. Name of city or town.
2. Name of association.
3. Date of organization.
4. Date of commencing business.
5. The kind of business.
6. Is your association co-operative or joint stock?
7. Are dividends declared on capital or trade?
8. Do you declare dividends quarterly or semi-annually?
9. In voting, do you allow more than one vote to each member, or do you allow a vote for every share of stock?
10. Number of members commencing business.
11. Present membership.
12. Amount of members' capital.
13. Amount of borrowed capital.
14. Value of share.
15. Limit of shares allowed member.
16. Rate of interest allowed on members' capital.
17. Rates of interest allowed on borrowed capital.
18. Is provision made in the by-laws for the increase of capital from the profits of trade?
19. Amount of capital at last report.
20. Amount of liabilities.
21. Amount in reserve fund.
22. Amount of sales during the year.
23. Percentage of dividends paid to members.
24. Percentage of dividends paid to non-members.
25. Expenses of management.
26. Net profits of the association for the past year.
27. Are any portion of the profits set aside for the education of the members and propagation of the principles of co-operation?
28. What has been the effect of the introduction of co-operation on your members and on those outside? Please answer last question in "Remarks."

**PRODUCTIVE CO-OPERATION.**

1. Name of city or town.
2. Name of association.
3. Date of commencing business.
4. What do you manufacture?
5. Amount of capital commencing business.
6. Rate of interest allowed on capital.
7. After paying expenses of management, interest on capital and other claims, what proportion of profits are allowed to workmen in addition to stipulated wages.

8. What proportion of net profits are allowed to customers?
9. What was the value of the raw material consumed last year?
10. What was the value of the manufactured product?
11. Net profits of the business last year.
12. Reserve fund.
13. Do you know of any attempts made to establish co-operation, distributive or productive, in this or in any other State which have failed? if so, the cause of failure? Please answer last question in "Remarks."

#### REMARKS.

The following associations have responded, reporting a prosperous condition of affairs, and, in some cases, in addition to the benefits derived by the members, the direct and indirect benefits conferred upon the public

Marion county Co-operative Association, P. of H., *Palmyra*.—Commenced business April 20, 1877, with a general stock of merchandise and agricultural implements. Though employing the term "co-operation," it is strictly, as the report states in answer to question 6, *Joint Stock*. Dividends are declared annually on capital. At the time of commencing business the association had ninety (90) members; present membership, ninety-two (92), and a paid up capital of \$3,170.00, exclusive of \$300.00 borrowed capital. The par value of shares is ten dollars; no member allowed to hold more than fifty (50) shares; rate of interest allowed on borrowed capital, 8 per cent.; amount of capital at last report, January 1, 1880, \$3,400.00; liabilities, \$853.72; sales during the year, \$13,000.00; expenses of management, \$1,450.00; net profits of the association for the year 1879, \$366.85. "The effect of the association upon the members has been to buy more for cash and less on credit. The general effect has been to induce others to sell more for cash and brought goods down to their cash value in this place."

O'Fallon Co-operative association, *O'Fallon, St. Charles Co.*—Commenced business January 1, 1878, with drugs and general merchandise and an aggregate capital of \$3,906.00, \$1,200.00 of which was borrowed at 8 per cent. Value of share, \$5.00; shareholders limited to 100 shares; amount of sales for the year, \$6,000.00; expenses of management, \$900.00; net profits, \$1,000.00. Members' dividends applied to increase the capital. In answer to question 28, the return says: "It has taught both members and outsiders valuable lessons of economy; also, not to depend so much upon the future for funds to pay for what they buy to-day. Causes of failure may be traced: 1st, to extending credit; 2d, cheap and inexperienced managers; 3d, discord among members, etc." Number of members commencing business, 17; present membership, 19.

Portland Co-operative Association, *Portland*.—Commenced business April 20, 1876, with a capital of \$1,610.00; all profits went to increase capital. Up to January 1, 1877, the capital paid in amounted to \$2,130.00; profits for eight months, \$904.00; total assets, January 1, 1878, \$5,237.40. Since January, 1878, the net profits have been about 25 per cent. September 15, 1880, the charter of the association was so amended as to increase the capital stock to \$10,000.00. January 1, 1880, the net assets of the association was \$8,059.00; amount of capital, last report, \$9,800.40; amount of liabilities, \$1,741.20, and the sales during the year amounted to \$21,000.00; expenses of management, about 8 per cent.; value of share, \$10.00; no limit to number of shares allowed. The association commenced business with 60 members; present membership, 25. The association is also engaged in production, manufacturing saddles and harness. Commencing October 1, 1879, with a capital of \$800.00, the profits for the first quarter yielded 10 per cent., or at the rate of 40 per cent. a year.

E. B. Keener & Co., *Keener Station*.—Commenced business Nov., 1877. Amount of capital at last report, \$2,600.00; sales during year, \$10,000.00; net profits for the year, 5 per cent.; value of share, \$5.00, limited to 100 shares per member; number of members commencing business, 19; present membership, 11.

Birdseye Grange Association, *Birdseye Ridge*.—Was incorporated June, 1876, but commenced business June, 1875. "This association," says C. B. Comstock, agent, "was started in a very humble way, with a paid-up stock of \$1,710.00, which has been added to from time to time, until it now (October, 1880,) amounts to \$3,250.00." The fundamental principles of the association are: 1st, to buy and sell strictly for cash; 2d, to deal on as small a margin of profit as possible, and permit a dividend of 10 per cent. per annum, to be made on capital from the profits of the concern; 3d, if we need more money than we have, we borrow outright instead of buying on credit; we have no trouble in getting all the money we want for any length of time at the rate of 8 per cent. per annum; 4th, all prices and terms are the same to members and non-members. At the outset the association met with bitter opposition, but since it has been found that it intended to deal on the principle of "equal and exact justice to all," much of the opposition has been withdrawn, and it has become, to a certain extent, a balance wheel in the prices of commodities generally, and it has now the well wishes of the entire community, excepting only rival traders and "slow pay" buyers. The aggregate capital of the association, July 1, 1880, was \$9,237.45, of which \$5,987.45 was borrowed capital; the rate of interest on members' capital, if left with the association one year, is 8 per cent. on borrowed capital; if left less than a year, 6 per cent.; the

business of the association is the purchase of farm products and the sale of general merchandise—of the latter, the sales for 1879 amounted to \$15,000.00, while the sales of grain, seeds and live stock footed \$25,000.00, making an aggregate for the year of about \$40,000.00. Dividends are declared semi-annually, at the rate of about 5½ per cent.; the expenses of management and net profits were respectively \$1,300.00 and \$600.00; there is a reserve fund of \$140.00; value of share, \$10.00; unlimited ; present membership, 18; a decrease of 2 from the commencement.

*Shelbina Grange Store, Shelbina.*—Went into operation April, 1875, with a capital of \$2,700.00; share, \$10.00; members limited to 50 shares; the amount of sales is not given, but 28 per cent. has been realized on capital; the net profits of the society for 1879, was \$311.25; this sum has been set aside as a revenue fund.

The "effects of co-operation on members," says the agent, W. T. Dean, "has been, a general diffusion of knowledge, a greater interest in education, a better and more systematic mode of farming (our members are all of the agricultural class), and general intelligence, confined not to members only, but has spread to great advantage all around us."

#### FAILURES IN CO-OPERATION.

The following reports of failures in co-operation have reached the Bureau:

*Audrain County Co-operative Association, Mexico.*—Was organized in 1875; cause of failure, "lack of support and want of business capacity in the directors."

*Cape Girardeau.*—"There is no grange co-operative association in this place; it was sold to individuals."

*Stewartsville.*—"The Farmers Mutual Aid Association is dissolved, and there is no one left to give the information required."

*Troy.*—"The Falmouth Patrons Association has gone into liquidation, and ceased business some 20 months since; it did not prove a success."

Of the following associations found in the list furnished by the Secretary of State, the Bureau could obtain no information:

Co-operative Mercantile Co., St. Louis.

Chouteau Co-operative Association, St. Louis.

Mutual Workingmen's Union, St. Louis.

People Mutual Benefit Union, St. Louis.

St. Louis Co-operative Association, St. Louis.



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PART XII.

# CONVICT LABOR.

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## CONVICT LABOR.

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Probably no other question pertaining to the interests of labor has attracted more attention than that of contract convict labor, or the forced labor of our State prisons sold under State authority to those who choose to become bidders or contractors for it. Unlike other features of the labor problem, this has a two-fold importance attaching to it, in that it receives the unqualified condemnation of both employer and employe as alike injurious to their mutual interests. It is but necessary here to refer to the strong and unmistakable expression of opinion furnished by both parties.

Regarding the question as one of the most intricate, and one which has taxed the powers of writers of authority in social and political science, all the light which could be obtained by the Bureau to enable the Legislature to deal intelligently and wisely with the subject, has been sought and presented in these pages.

In the diverse views embodied in the testimony as to the best method of abolishing the system, there is little to help towards a solution of the difficulty.

In view of the fact that some of the leading industries of the country have suffered severely from competition with prison labor, and that the demand for its abolition, or a change from the present system, is imperatively called for by those whose labor and capital are placed at a ruinous disadvantage, the history of our State Penitentiary, showing the legislative action of the past on convict labor, will, no doubt, prove of valuable assistance as a guide in the much needed legislation of the present. The gravity of the question seemed to demand that only in the light of past experience could anything of practical value be brought to view.

It was, therefore, after consultation with those able to counsel in the case, that Mr. P. T. Miller, of Jefferson City, Warden of the Penitentiary from 1861 to 1865, by request of the Bureau, kindly consented to furnish the following valuable summary of the penal legislation of the State from its commencement to the present time :

**CONDENSED STATEMENT OF THE LEGISLATION CONCERNING THE PENITENTIARY.**

The original act erecting a Penitentiary at the City of Jefferson, was passed January 16, 1833. The first appropriation was made under this act for \$25,000, to be expended under the supervision of two commissioners, and the building was required to be completed and ready for the reception of prisoners on or before the first day of October, 1834. The stone work was let for \$2.50 per perch.

Under the act approved March 18, 1835, the Warden system was adopted, under the control of three Inspectors, to consist of the Auditor, Treasurer and Attorney-General. The Inspectors had the power to remove any officer of the Penitentiary, not excepting the Warden.

The salary of the Warden was fixed at \$750; physician, \$100; overseers, \$200; and guards, \$132 per annum. No prisoners were received prior to January 1st, 1836.

The Warden, under the law, was the chief executor and financial officer of the concern, and he was only allowed to employ four guards, and was compelled to work the convicts inside of the walls; but under the law approved February 6, 1837, he was authorized to employ six guards, and was at liberty to employ the prisoners outside the walls, if he could do so advantageously.

The first Warden of the Penitentiary was George Lewis Bolton; he resigned the 10th day of April, 1838. Under date of November 29th, 1838, W. S. Birch, who succeeded George L. Bolter, reports 46 prisoners confined within the prison, one having been pardoned since the 1st inst.; the rest of the convicts were employed as follows: 7 in blacksmith shops, 10 at brick-making, 8 at wagon-making, 4 in cabinet shop, 1 at painting, and the balance who were able to work, were employed in clearing out rubbish. The majority of them were young and able-bodied men, and were hearty, with some exceptions.

Under the act approved February 11, 1839, the Penitentiary was leased to John C. Gordon and Wm. S. Birch for a term of four years, and were to give bond in the sum of \$30,000, with 4 or more securities. The lessees were required to erect at least one wing of cells, and perhaps two within the next two years, as contemplated by the plans, at

the discretion of the General Assembly. They should close up the present gate-way and erect one in such part of the walls as shall be directed by the Board of Inspectors, with a wall projecting on each side of the gate 60 feet long and of same height with the exterior walls, with a similar wall uniting other improvements, as may be directed by the board of directors; for which the keepers or lessees are to be paid by the State, as the work progresses, quarter-yearly, at the usual rate of similar work in the City of Jefferson. And in consideration of the privilege hereby granted, said keepers or lessees shall, at the expiration of said term (4 years), pay to the State of Missouri the sum of \$6,500.

The State advanced to said keepers or lessees the sum of \$4,000.00, to be paid on or after the 15th day of February, to enable them to carry on said establishment, out of any money in the State Treasury not otherwise appropriated, which said keepers shall refund to the State at the expiration of said time, with interest on the same at the rate of 6 per cent. per annum.

The inventory of tools, etc., charged to lessees, Gordon and Birch, was as follows: Inventory, \$4,906.02; loan, \$4,000.00, and they were credited as follows: For work done in 1840, \$20,110.95; for work done in 1841, \$11,443.21. Under the following resolution, dated February 28, 1843, this account was balanced:

*"Resolved*, That whenever the said Gordon & Birch shall file with the Secretary of State assent to the settlement this day made by the Committee on the Penitentiary, showing no indebtedness whatever on either side in the accounts of the said Gordon & Birch and the State of Missouri, that then it shall be the duty of said Secretary of State to cancel the bond of said Gordon & Birch by writing across it, in large letters, the word 'canceled,' and thenceforth the said bond shall be considered as no longer binding on said principals and securities on said bond."

Under the act approved January 6, 1843, Ezra Richmond and Joseph Brown became the keepers and lessees of the Penitentiary for a term of ten years, for the following sums:

At the end of the second year to pay to the State.....	\$8,000 00
At the end of the fourth year to pay to the State.....	9,000 00
At the end of the sixth year to pay to the State.....	10,000 00
At the end of the eighth year to pay to the State .....	11,000 00
At the end of the tenth year to pay to the State.....	12,000 00

Under the act approved March 26, 1845, Richmond & Brown were authorized to sub-lease the Penitentiary to Thomas L. Price, John S. Blain, Wm. Tompkins and Jas. Brown, upon the same conditions ; and the same amount of bond was required as was imposed on the original lessees. Under a joint resolution approved March 24, 1845, the Inspectors were authorized to credit the lessees with \$4.00 per convict either discharged or pardoned.

Under joint resolution, dated January 25, 1847, "the rent of the Penitentiary now due and to become due from the lessees, shall not be collected from them so long as the amount to which they are entitled for work done by them on the new block of cells, now in progress, shall exceed the amount of rent due ; but the amount to which they may be entitled for work thus done may be set off against the rent."

Under act approved March 10, 1849, the chaplain was authorized to expend \$200.00 in the purchase of books for the use of the convicts.

Under joint resolution adopted March 10, 1849, the lessees were authorized to remove the eastern block of old cells and use the material in the erection of shops.

Under act approved March 3, 1851, the lessees were authorized to erect machinery, and to remove the same at the end of their lease ; to repair center building ; to erect hospital ; and to be credited with \$1,500.00 in abatement of rent in consequence of losses sustained by fire, and money paid discharged convicts.

Under the act approved February 16, 1853, the present Warden system was adopted. The officers to be appointed by the Governor were Warden, Factor, Clerk and Physician. The Deputy Warden and other officers and servants were appointed by the Warden. The officers were to receive the following salaries : Warden, \$2,000.00 ; Factor, \$1,500.00 ; Deputy Warden, \$800.00 ; Clerk, \$600.00 ; Chaplain, \$200.00 ; Physician, \$500.00 ; and the other officers to receive such salaries as may be agreed upon between them and the Warden.

Under the law of 1873 the Penitentiary was leased to Charles A. Perry, Elias H. Perry, Waller Young and James R. Willis, principals, with Benjamin W. Perry, C. J. Messmer, S. A. Young, Anthony Grubb, Elias W. Fox and B. H. Riddle as securities, for a term of ten years, for one thousand dollars. The amount of the bond was \$200,000.00. Under this act all the personal property belonging to the State was sold to the lessees at an appraisement by disinterested parties, and amounted to \$14,234.83, and the State entered upon a new system of prison management, from which it subsequently learned such a lesson that hereafter no sane man, of the present generation at least, will dare to propose a similar experiment.

On March 25, 1874, a bond was filed by Charles A. Perry, Elias H. Perry and James R. Willis as principals, and Elias W. Fox, B. H. Ridgle, B. W. Perry, Waddy Thompson and Sol. Kitchen as securities, for \$200,000.00, and under the act of 1874, the Legislature made provision in case of forfeiture of lease that the Warden, under the control of the Inspectors, should run the institution, and made an appropriation of \$4,000.00 per month to meet any such emergency, and the General Assembly reserved the right to alter or repeal this act.

April the 18th, 1874, the Penitentiary was sub-leased to the St. Louis Manufacturing Company with the following securities on a \$200,000.00 bond: Sol. G. Kitchen, Chas. A. Perry, Elias H. Perry, Waddy Thompson, George H. McNabb, Elias W. Fox, James R. Willis and Hugh L. Fox.

Under the act of 1875, the Inspectors were authorized to contract with the lessees for improvements not to exceed the sum of \$90,000.00. It is unnecessary to add that the whole of the appropriation was consumed. In November, 1875, the Inspectors were forced to take the prison back for reasons which will appear more fully, later in this chapter.

It will be observed from the foregoing that the State of Missouri has made the whole circuit of experiments in regard to her Penitentiary. The three systems which have most attracted the attention of the world have in time been tried: 1st, the management by agents appointed by the State, for and on account of the State alone; 2d, the leasing system, where the whole convict population is hired out to be worked by private citizens in any branch of business they may choose to adopt; and, 3d, the contract system, where any number of persons are let to one or more contractors at a fixed rate per man per day, the State reserving, in the hands of the Warden, the control, discipline and police of the institution, which is the plan under which it is operated at the present time, and which has proven here and elsewhere to be the best possible disposition of convict labor.

The objections to the operation of such institutions on account of the State are many and strong.

In the present state of public and party sentiment, the appointment of prison affairs is influenced too frequently not by the fitness of the man for the position, not in consideration of experience and sound business qualifications, but on account of what he has done at the preceding election for the successful candidate for Governor. The large amount of capital necessary to place such a concern on a firm commercial basis, it would not be prudent to entrust it to the management of

incompetent men. The frequent change of prison affairs must, of necessity, increase the risk of getting incompetent men, and the large expenditures with the appointments they afford to unscrupulous officials to make money for themselves, and at the expense of the State, are reasons sufficient to discard the first of the systems named.

The contract system simplifies the official duties to the mere routine of receiving pay for the labor, and disbursing it under proper restrictions to the best advantage. It protects the prisoners, too, against the hard exactions of lessees, as to over-work, hard fare, insufficient clothing and proper attention when sick or infirm, and by keeping the control and discipline in the hands of the State gives all the advantages of reformatory processes which are attained under the Warden system purely.

The leasing, by which is meant the turning over of the whole establishment to men whose only object is to make the most money in a given time, has proved a disgrace to the State, and a most decided detriment to the Treasury. Missouri has lost money largely by her leases. The first was a small matter, there being so few convicts, but the lessees made no money, and consequently paid none to the State, except in a few very poor improvements. The second was of more importance, and the State's experience was the same, paying for improvements all the time, taking a lot of rubbish and worn-out machinery at enormous prices, and receiving the prison in a neglected, worn-out condition at the end.

The third and last lease was of later date, more pretentious in its proportions, and resulted more disastrously to the State. It was the conception of a lot of adventurers who were willing to take the prison on any terms in the hope of inducing subsequent Legislatures to go into a system of improvements which would enable them to make fortunes out of State work. A branch penitentiary was one of their pet schemes, but they were defeated in that, and dragged along in a hand-to-mouth way until the final crash came. They made a desperate effort to get the State into contracts for improvements. Governor Hardin became alarmed for fear the thing would collapse on his hands and approved a bill authorizing the Inspectors to contract for \$90,000.00 of improvements, a large item of which is the unfinished cell building outside the walls.

There was a disposition manifested by the authorities to sustain these last lessees at any sacrifice, when it was apparent to everybody else that their only object was to get their hands into the treasury. It will be seen that during the short time they held it, no less than three changes of firms were made, each new concern being a little worse than its predecessor. When, finally, the whole thing collapsed, the

State had again to take its prison out of repair, with scarcely a starting plan for business, so completely had the establishment run down in all its appointments.

The convicts were ill treated, badly fed, clothed and bedded, and going often for weeks without even a change of linen. Numbers of them were so near naked that they had to be kept in their cells, with not even blankets to cover with. This naturally made them sullen and unmanageable, and things grew from bad to worse, until finally a full grown mutiny occurred, which was only suppressed by the citizens volunteering and going in large numbers, armed, into the prison. But this was not all: when the lessees took possession of the prison, they found a number of contractors working convicts under contracts with the State. These contracts were repudiated by the lessees, and the contractors turned out of doors. They went to the Legislature for redress, and so clearly just were their claims for damages, that the Legislature ordered \$41,000, in twenty year six per cent. bonds, to be issued to the two firms of Meyberg & Wangelin, and Hancock, Roache & Co., on April 1, 1875.

In addition to this, before the State could get possession of her property, she was compelled to pay, or assumed to pay, and afterwards did pay, to the judgment creditors of the lessees, \$8,009.54. The risk had been willfully incurred by the Legislature, and the State could honorably do nothing less than foot the bill, and so add nearly fifty thousand dollars more to the cost of the Penitentiary. Such are some of the fruits of the leasing system.

And now what effect has convict labor had on the industries of the country? Under the first lease the few convicts were employed in making wagons and furniture on so limited a scale that they never interfered with anybody outside of Jefferson City. Later, they got permission to work the convicts outside, which proved to be a very serious detriment to the mechanics in the city, as they engaged in building houses. In the time of the second lease the labor was employed chiefly in the manufacture of hemp, cooperage, barrels and wagons, which was kept up by the State until the war broke out. Then for the first time the contract system was inaugurated,\* and the labor not under contract was applied to wagons, cooperage and such other things as promised fair wages. Later, after the war, the labor employed by contractors, and it has nearly all been so employed, has been devoted to the manufacture of shoes, saddletrees, brooms, etc.

Outside of Jefferson City the effect has been so small in competition with free labor as to be scarcely discernable, except, perhaps, in the item of saddletrees, which, owing to improved machinery, patented by

\*Under the Wardenship of P. T. Miller.

Mr. Jno. H. Preston, of Jefferson City, have been manufactured in large quantities, and cheaply. Some complaints have been made against bringing convict labor in competition with free labor, but what remedy is there for it? The law sentences men to hard work, and they must work at something as part of the punishment, and to pay the expense of keeping them, if possible. Outside, everybody works at something, and no matter how convict labor is employed, it must come in competition with somebody. But for that reason shall they be locked up in idleness and the expense of keeping them increased? By no means, for the proportion of prison manufacturers to those of free labor in the State, is so small that they will scarcely be felt by anyone, except as stated in the single item of saddletrees.

It will be seen from the following statement, compiled from official figures in the Auditor's office, that the entire amount of appropriations for the improvement, support, and salaries of the Penitentiary is \$1,953,313.44. This is the cost of the institution over and above its earnings from its organization to the present date. What has the State to show for it? The entire establishment as it stands to-day, and the amount of labor expended on the Governor's Mansion, Supreme court-house and the Armory.

The following are the appropriations for the building, support and salaries of the Penitentiary :

1833-35.....	\$25,000 00
1836-38.....	6,837 45
1839-40.....	30,110 95
1841-43.....	11,517 31
1849.....	200 00
1853-63.....	375,840 98
1863-66.....	251,824 76
1867.....	30,000 00
1868.....	50,000 00
1869.....	115,660 14
1870.....	168,561 56
1871.....	103,852 15
1872.....	150,033 18
1873.....	155,105 01
1874.....	496 97
1875.....	104,625 90
1876.....	126,199 92
1877.....	96,102 01
1878.....	51,951 52
1879.....	52,446 84
<b>Total.....</b>	<b>\$1,900,866 60</b>
1880 estimated same as 1879.....	\$52,446 84
<b>Total.....</b>	<b>\$1,953,313 44</b>
Adding bonds issued to Meyberg & Wangelin and Hancock, Roache & Co., damages for broken contract.....	\$41,000 00
Amount paid judgment creditors of lessees.....	8,009 54
<b>Total.....</b>	<b>\$49,009 54</b>
	Digitized by Google
	<b>\$2,002,322 98</b>

The following condensed table from the present Warden's report, issued January 13, 1879, will give a correct idea of the increase of crime with the increase of population, until 1865, when the increase was very much out of proportion, owing to the large number of negroes who found their way to the Penitentiary immediately after their emancipation, or as soon, at least, as the civil courts, which had been suspended almost throughout the State during the war, were opened again. Moreover, there was a large white element in the State at the time, just returned from the armies, which was out of employment, living in enforced idleness, owing to the general prostration of all business in the State, and exposed to great temptations to commit violations of the law:

TABLE XXVII.—INCREASE OF CRIME.

Year.	Received during year.	Discharged during year.	Remaining end of year.
1836	18	1	17
1837	27	9	35
1838	81	18	53
1839	27	15	65
1840	38	32	71
1841	57	24	104
1842	67	42	129
1843	77	52	154
1844	64	84	184
1845	49	65	168
1846	87	65	140
1847	42	53	129
1848	42	41	130
1849	56	47	139
1850	95	36	198
1851	75	42	281
1852	96	72	255
1853	64	90	229
1854	108	102	235
1855	117	108	244
1856	133	118	259
1857-1858	340	211	388
1859-1860	480	344	524
1861-1862	296	377	448
1863-1864	808	866	384
1865-1866	1,005	792	597
1867-1868	746	608	735
1869-1870	794	732	797
1871	478	363	907
1872	876	442	841
1873-1874	1,205	977	1,069
1875-1876	1,413	1,136	1,346
1877-1878	1,273	1,289	1,294

On October 14, 1880, a visit was made to the Missouri Penitentiary at Jefferson City. Having made our mission known, Mr. James R. Willis, Warden, kindly furnished all the information in his possession in regard to the rules and regulations of the prison. We were also ably as-

sisted in our work by Captain Bradbury, Deputy Warden. To both of these gentlemen we feel gratefully indebted.

For the information of those who may be under the impression that the entire laboring population of the Penitentiary is employed under the contract system, the following *official report*, furnished by the Deputy Warden, will show how and by whom the convicts were employed on the 16th day of October, 1880, the employed on private contract, and the number and occupation of those in the employment of the State.

No. guards.	Where employed.	Worked.	Sick.	Cell.	Total.
4	Giesecke, Meysenburg & Co.....	215½	3	6½	225
1	A. Friesmeyer.....	56	3	1	60
2	Cooper, Patterson & Co.....	135	.....	.....	135
2	J. S. Sullivan & Co.....	177	5	.....	182
3	Jacob Straus & Co.....	156	2	9	167
	W. C. Boon & Co.....	3	.....	.....	3
	Capitol improvements, at building.....	1	.....	.....	1
	Stone-cutters.....	8	.....	.....	8
7	Repairs and improvements, saddletree shop.....	84	92	46	40½
	Brickyard.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
	Excelsior Patent Broom Co.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
		922			
	<b>FOR THE STATE.</b>				
1	Blacksmith and repair shop.....	17			
1	Machine shop.....	2			
1	Carpenter shop.....	5			
1	Clothing department.....	8		58	
	Cooper and broom shop.....	3			
1	Weave shop.....	7			
1	Teamsters.....	16			
1	Farm.....	18			
	Engine No. 1.....	4			
	Engines No.'s 2 and 3.....	6			
	Grist mill.....	2			
	Laundry and soap-makers.....	11			
	Junk house and reception room.....	3			
	Round gate and barbers.....	8			
	Round House and yard cleaners.....	14			
	Shop cleaners.....	22			
	Hall tenders.....	16			
2	Commissary and culinary department.....	58			
	Officers.....	2			
	Governor's Mansion.....	1			
	Yard improvements.....	8			
	Brickyard.....	.....		26	
	Stone-cutters.....	2			
	Dairy.....	2			
2	Hospital.....	18		40	
	Female department.....	1,160			
					45

## RECAPITULATION.

Gate count.....		1,227
Worked.....	1,160	
Sick.....	40	
Cell.....	27	
	1,227	1,227

Male.....	1,227
Female.....	45
Total.....	1,272

SATURDAY, October 16, 1880.

Approved:

S. R. SHRADER, Time-keeper.

Of the above contractors, Giesecke, Meysenburg & Co., and Cooper, Patterson & Co., manufacture men's boots and shoes; A. Priesmeyer, women's shoes; Jacob Straus & Co., harness, collars and whips; J. S. Sullivan & Co., saddletrees, and W. C. Boon & Co., rustic chairs. By reference to the "daily report" above it will be seen that the six firms employ, when working full force, 772 prisoners. "Each contractor pays 45 cents per man per day for the number of men contracted for. Any number working in excess of the contract are paid for at the rate of 40 cents per day per man." The Bureau did not ascertain the number of men each firm is entitled to by the terms of their contract. The balance of the prisoners are employed by the State and in the prison, as indicated above, "and of course draw no pay."

## OBJECTIONS TO THE PRISON LABOR CONTRACT SYSTEM.

The principal objections on the part of employers to the "contract system," when applied to prison labor, is, that it gives the employer of prison labor decided advantages over his competitor (outside manufacturer) in the market by reason of cheaper labor. In addition to this the employer of prison labor is free from rent, and in some cases, where required, is supplied with steam power gratis; or, properly speaking, by the State.

But the most serious objection to the system is the difference in the cost of labor as between free and prison labor. To illustrate the difference we shall take, first, the manufacture of saddletrees, which is now largely carried on in our Penitentiary, at Jefferson City, and by reason of its introduction and gradual extension there, has caused a corresponding decline of the business in St. Louis, where it formerly flourished. In 1874, the number of hands employed in this business

St. Louis was about 600. In the summer of the present year (1880), notwithstanding the boasted activity in business, the number employed did not exceed thirty.

This decline, say the manufacturers in that trade, is due solely to its introduction into our State prison. The number now employed in that trade in the Penitentiary is on an average about 175. For the labor performed by convicts at this industry, the contractors pay 45 cents a day per man, while the St. Louis employers find it difficult, in order to compete with this low price for labor, to pay their employes \$1.20 per day, the ruling wages in the trade. Taking an outside establishment, employing 175 men at an average of \$1.20 per day, and the difference amounts to \$131.25 per day in wages alone, not counting the rent and steam power, which would at least amount to \$3,000 per year, to run an establishment of such magnitude.

While many have been compelled to abandon the trade which they supposed was to furnish them a livelihood, and seek other employment, those who continue to work at it are compelled to take the pittance now doled out to them, and for which the State is to some extent responsible.

In this connection may be mentioned the manufacture of harness, collars and whips in the State prison, and which has affected outside labor to such an extent as to call for legislative investigation. Taking 165 prisoners as the average employed in this industry at 45 cents per man per day, and compare it with a firm employing an equal number of free laborers at \$2.00 per man per day, and the difference in the daily pay-roll amounts to \$255.75.

That important branch of industry, the manufacture of boots and shoes, furnishes another illustration of the injustice done to those who desire to add to the wealth and prosperity of the State by the encouragement of well paid labor, in subjecting them to such unfair competition in the market with prison-made goods. The average wages in this trade the present year, throughout the State, is \$1.75 per day. The employer of prison labor for the work pays 45 cents per day, a difference of \$1.30 per day. It will thus be seen that three firms, employing 400 workmen (free labor) at an average of \$1.75 per day, would have to pay \$520.00 more per day for labor than the three prison contractors who employ an equal number of prisoners.

According to the terms of the contract, the employer of prison labor is required to pay for a certain number of prisoners, contracted for, whether or no he has employment for them. But, as a rule, the number contracted for is much smaller than actually needed; and it is here where they are enabled to take another advantage of the em-

ployer of outside labor, in the privilege allowed them of calling on the Warden for extra help, and returning them when they have no further use for them. For some time past, however, the orders in the hands of the contractors have been large enough to give steady employment to all the prisoners, the workshops and every available space for work being occupied to their fullest capacity.

#### TASK WORK.

The statement has been made that prisoners perform less work than free laborers. This statement has not been supported by proof; on the contrary, a task is imposed on each prisoner, after the usual term of an apprenticeship, which, in consequence of the many subdivisions of labor, is generally acquired in about a month's time; and woe be to him who does not perform his allotted task.

The following tables are designed to show the task allotted to each prisoner and the average work performed by free labor, on the same class of work, per day:

#### WOMEN'S SHOES—MCKAY WORK.

Class of work.	No. of pair-days work.	
	In prison.	Outside labor.
Lasting.....	35	48
Heeling.....	40	48
Trimming.....	45	48
Burnishing.....	45	48
Finishing .....	50	48

The stitchers, cutters, etc., have no regular task allotted to them, but their work is regulated by the amount of work done by the lasters, heelers, etc. The manufacturer of the above class of shoes in the prison, estimates the value of his products at \$75,000.00, for year ending 1880, and added by saying :

" Our shoes contain better material than the same grade of shoes made outside of the prison ; the difference lies in the workmanship. The work done outside is of a better quality, and therefore commands a higher price. Shoes that we sell for \$21 per dozen, are sold by outside manufacturers for \$24.60, all on account of superior workmanship, but poorer material. We have to pay for our help whether we

have work for them or not; we cannot lay off for one week or five weeks until the busy season commences. Another drawback is that prisoners often get sick, and this breaks up the teams and causes a loss of probably ten or twenty pairs per day. This loss is occasioned by the fact that the prisoners are only skilled in one particular branch of the business, and cannot be put from one branch to another like free labor, which, as a rule, has a knowledge of every branch in the trade."

An attempt was made to obtain information in regard to the task of each prisoner employed in the saddletree, boot and shoe (men's), and harness, collar and whip shops, but in this undertaking we did not succeed. The contractors declined by saying, "it was impossible," on account of the many sub-divisions in the work. Although they know at the end of each day whether or not each prisoner has performed the task allotted to him, this furnishing ground for the supposition that the daily task required from each prisoner is above the average performed by free labor.

At the time of our visit (October, 1880), the two firms manufacturing boots and shoes, turned out an average of 850 pairs daily, employing 360 prisoners and 21 foremen. Taking 360 prisoners at 45 cents each per day, and 21 foremen at an average of \$20 each per week, and the daily pay-roll for labor amounts to \$232, or an average cost of  $27\frac{1}{4}$  cents per pair of boots and shoes, from the time the leather reaches the cutting board until the product is ready for shipping.

A firm in St. Louis, employing 80 hands and manufacturing the same class of goods as those made in the penitentiary, by the two firms above mentioned, has furnished the Bureau a statement of its products for nine weeks, with the amount paid for labor, as follows:

For week ending.	Number of pairs made.	Amount paid for labor.
September 4, 1880	1,161	\$840 20
" 11, "	1,316	860 80
" 18, "	1,396	901 65
" 25, "	1,536	924 60
October 2, "	1,272	859 85
" 9, "	1,186	717 80
" 16, "	1,678	958 75
" 23, "	1,488	900 85
" 30, "	1,130	785 80
Total.....	12,113	\$7,750 80

It will be seen from the above statement that the average cost of each pair is a fraction over 63 cents, or 36 cents more per pair for labor than the cost of the prison labor product.

Allowing 308 working days to the year, and 850 pairs of boots and shoes as the average day's work in the penitentiary, the aggregate for the year is 261,800 pairs. At 36 cents per pair, the difference between the cost of the prison made shoe and the same article made outside, the employers of prison labor find at the end of the year a balance in their favor, over the outside manufacturers, of \$94,248 on labor alone. Allowing the saving in rent and steam-power to be offset by the cost of tools for the prisoners.

The number of saddletrees manufactured in the penitentiary is given by the contractors at an average of 500 per day, and estimate the value of the product for 1880 at \$165,000. They employ seven foremen at an average of \$20 per week each, and 180 prisoners at 45 cents per day each. It will thus be seen that the average cost for labor, from the time the raw material is brought into the factory until the finished product is delivered at the freight depot for shipping, is 21 cents per saddletree. An attempt to compare this result with the cost of outside labor proved fruitless, in consequence of the difference in the mode of working in and outside the prison. The outside manufacturers have but little or no machinery to assist in reducing the cost of production.

As an evidence of the decline, in the last ten years, of the price of the marketable article and the labor employed in its production, the following table has been furnished by an employe:

	Market price per dozen.	Price paid for making woodwork per dozen.
1870. Sommersett tress .....	\$10 00	\$4 00
1875. Sommersett tress .....	6 00	2 50
1880. Sommersett tress ..	4 50	1 60
1870. Common side tress.....	8 00	8 00
1875. Common side tress.....	4 50	1 75
1880. Common side tress.....	8 50	1 05

In the manufacture of harness, collars and whips, no definite information could be obtained, but there is no reason to doubt that the advantages to the contractor are at least equal to those enjoyed by other employers of prison labor in those trades already mentioned.

The manufacture of brooms is carried on by the State, under the control of the Warden. The average number of brooms made per day is 60 dozen. The State has about \$10,000.00 invested in the business, which, as the Deputy Warden informed the Bureau, enables them to lay in enough material (broom corn) to run almost the entire year.

#### THE ST. LOUIS HOUSE OF REFUGE.

The Superintendent, J. D. Schafer, Esq., furnished the Bureau with the following information in relation to the institution, in reply to questions asked him :

The inmates, on the 29th day of December, 1880, numbered 227; of this number 67 were females, and 160 males.

Seventy-four of the 160 males (boys) were under contract with G. F. Dittman & Co., manufacturers of women's shoes and slippers. The price paid per capita per day, is as follows :

For first year .....	16 $\frac{1}{2}$	cents.
For second year .....	25	"
For third year .....	33 $\frac{1}{2}$	"
For fourth year.....	50	"

Some 35 or 40 of the smaller boys were employed at chair caning. The institution is furnished with the material by a firm in St. Louis, and receives a stipulated price per dozen for all work done.

Seven hours per day the year round is the time allotted for work, with an intermission of 15 minutes for recess, morning and afternoon. No task is imposed, but in the shoe factory they are expected to work steady during working hours.

The contract of G. F. Dittman & Co. calls for 125 boys, but at this time (December 29,) the Superintendent could not supply the number, owing to the fact that many of the boys were not physically strong enough to perform the labor required of them in the shoe factory.

The above firm carries on only the "bottoming" and "finishing" in the institution, the cutting and fitting being done at their factory in St. Louis. The number of shoes and slippers thus finished daily, at the House of Refuge, is estimated, on average, to reach 450 pairs. All the improved machinery, such as "edge setting," "trimming" and

"heeling machines," "rotary heel trimmers," "channel turners," etc are in use, and the labor does not seem exhaustive.

As to the average cost of labor on each pair of shoes finished in the institution, the Bureau had no means of ascertaining. But there can be no doubt that with the aid of the improved machinery employed there, a boy of 15 years of age can perform nearly, if not quite, as much labor as a skilled mechanic.



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**PART XIII.**

**OPINIONS AND SUGGESTIONS  
BY WORKINGMEN.**

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## OPINIONS AND SUGGESTIONS.

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It is extremely difficult, in view of the many attempts which have been made, to ascertain the opinions of workingmen on the vexed question of labor. Legislative and Congressional committees have been appointed at various times to obtain suggestions from the laboring classes in relation to their condition. The evidence thus gathered mainly came from leading men in the labor movement, or from so-called reformers with some special theory to advance. But at no time in the history of this State have the working classes had the opportunity of expressing their thoughts in their own way, as to the best mode of bettering their condition, until the Bureau of Labor was established. Consequently, a circular was issued by the Bureau, inviting, in addition to the returns made in the blanks, a free and unrestricted expression of opinion on the obstacles and hindrances to their improvement. To this appeal a liberal response came from all parts of the State, each one writing on the phase of the subject in which he was most interested.

These opinions and suggestions, written after a hard day's work, may be safely accepted as the genuine home thoughts of the working classes, free from any of those influences or cross-examinations which reveal the true animus of minds not really desirous of accurate information on a subject of such importance, as shown by the investigations of the "Hewett Committee." Coming, as these thoughts do, from practical-minded workingmen, and not from mere theorists and agitators, they are entitled to grave consideration, and furnish the material for a system of political economy of infinitely greater value, because more in harmony with the humanitarian spirit of the age than the so-called works issued by the schools.

Many statements had to be thrown out to avoid repetition as far as possible. In the following pages we give the opinions and suggestions, and in each case give the occupation of the writer:

Convict labor.—*From a planing mill employe.*—Convict labor is a great curse to all branches of labor; it lowers wages and ruins employers who have to compete with prison labor and prison-made goods. It is not just that contractors, by hiring criminals, should take the bread out of the mouths of those who pay taxes to keep them.

Stagnation in labor due to legislative negligence.—*From a cigarmaker.*—The great stagnation in every branch of Industry, and the reduction of wages in every calling within the last five years, has greatly injured our trade. As for the remedy, I am no law-maker, but I believe if our legislatures would spend less time in discussing political schemes and work more for the interests of the laboring classes, they could easily find a cure for the evil.

Wages paid by corporations should be controlled by law.—*From a cooper.*—I believe firms, not strictly private, should be controlled by law, so far as wages is concerned. I mean all corporations, joint stock companies, railroad companies, iron works and mining companies, as their power to oppress far exceeds that of private individuals. Therefore, they ought to be bound by law to pay standard wages.

An apprentice and compulsory education law, manual training school.—*From a machinist.*—A general law to prevent any minor from serving an apprenticeship before the age of 18 years; a compulsory common school education; a manual training school in the evening in order to educate them into the theoretical and technical points appertaining to mechanics, and that a certain per centage should be required in order to get the necessary papers countersigned by their employer, and the principal of the school vouching for their qualifications in their respective lines of mechanism; that no foreign mechanic be employed unless he declares his intention to become a citizen of the United States.

Corporate tyranny beyond the reach of law.—*From a miner.*—There are of course many evils to be remedied, but I will confine myself at present to one thing, that of inviting your attention to one of the greatest evils that has ever come under my observation. You are aware that the coal miners here were on a strike for some time against a reduction and were defeated, and all went to work; the coal company allowing *all* to go to work. They would have discharged the leading men, but *dare not* do so. However, they gave the names of three of the men to the railroad company, and the superintendent of the road sent orders to the coal company to discharge us, or they would ship no more coal for them. Thus myself and two others are thrown out of employment. We have applied to the attorneys or lawyers of our city (Lexington) and they say there is no redress for us. Now if there is no law for such crimes as that, the quicker a law is created for that purpose the better.

The lead miner's contract.—*From a miner.*—Being in the lead mining business, I wish to point out one of the wrongs under which miners in this part of the country suffer. Companies that lease land and open it up for mining, seem to think that they are not doing wrong when they bring out what they term a contract, but is really a one-sided instrument, whereby the miner, or party of the second part, is bound by nearly every clause, and the company, or party of the first part, is not bound to do anything outside of paying a certain price for lead ore when delivered to them by the miner. Companies charge the miners a certain amount for pump rent, or draining; this the miner must pay. It often happens that miners will have their shafts down on paying mineral; the company will then let the water come up and flood out the miner. The company may then declare the claim forfeited, because the miner has not and could not work his claim; this gives the company the power to take from the miner the fruits of his labor without paying him for it; this is wrong and should be changed.

**Apprenticeships.**—*From a printer.*—I think that every apprentice should be indentured, and a man put to work with him to show him, which is done in very few shops. The result is a great many poor workmen ; they do not get the trade until years after their apprenticeship, and then they have to pick it up themselves, which, as a rule, is detrimental to the mechanics.

**Abolish child-labor, shorter hours, compulsory education.**—*From a carpenter.*—Abolish child-labor under 16, compel parents to send their children to school, so that when they go out into the world to labor, they may have a chance for elevation, for without education their hopes are small ; also, do away with store orders in lieu of cash payments. Eight hours should constitute a day's work, so that a mechanic or laborer could use part of the day in affairs of his own after working hours.

**How to help labor.**—*From a carpenter.*—To help labor, the following will have to be done: 1st, abolish convict contract labor ; 2d, reduce the hours of labor to eight per day ; 3d, tax machine production ; 4th, pass laws to aid co-operative enterprises of workingmen ; 5th, a national system of settling our public lands, such as proposed by Congressman Wright, of Pennsylvania ; 6th, a new system of taxation to place the burden of government on all alike.

**Eight hours.**—*From a carpenter.*—If the workingmen would "pool their issues" on the eight hour question, it would be their salvation. The workingmen of this country are fifty years behind the time. The majority of them in this part of Missouri (Randolph county) do not seem to understand the eight hour movement. I often wish the workingmen of England had the power to govern their own country like we have here ; they would take advantage of it.

**The effects of long hours.**—*From a plasterer.*—I have no steady employer and consequently cannot make full time ; a great deal is lost by rain and hot weather in summer and frost in winter. In winter there is very little done at my trade, and then it is done by the hour, so we are compelled in that season to seek other employment, such as cutting ice, or find work in the pork houses or at common labor. The lathing, one-third of our work, has been taken away from us and given to boys. We struck three times last year for higher wages ; in the early part of the year we received \$2.00 per day ; then we struck in the month of April for \$2.25, and in May for \$2.50, and again on July 2d for \$3.00 per day. This goes to show that there is no satisfaction among the workmen. Now, if we had eight hours as a day's work, it would stop this competition for labor, because it would give one-fourth more men employment and steady work for all. We now work only eight hours on Saturdays, and there is no kicking about it. Why can't we do the same the rest of the week ?

**No necessity for being idle.**—*From an engineer.*—In my opinion, from experience, a man who is thorough in his trade, honest in his work and faithful to his employer, there is no necessity of his being out of work. I have lived here (West Plains) five years, and in that time I have earned over \$4,000 ; have lost only five weeks and three days, and am crowded with work now, while there are others here that are out of work half of the year, mainly because they will not work when they can get it.

**Intimidation and prison labor.**—*From a harnessmaker.*—I must omit to give you my name for the reason that I do not want it published, for my employer discharges any one on the slightest pretext. I am in favor of shorter hours and co-operative shops ; but most of all to abolish convict labor. We have to compete with convict labor, and that is what keeps our wages down. My employer gets a large portion of his work done in the Missouri Penitentiary and pays at the rate of 45 cents per day for each convict. No honest man can work for that and support himself and family. Besides this the contractors live, rent free, in the prison, and each prisoner has to

perform a certain *task* per day, which, on an average, is larger than that done by square labor outside of the prison walls. I have no objections to prisoners being worked in our penal institutions ; in fact, I am satisfied that they should work, but I do hold that the benefits derived from their labor should not go into the hands of a few contractors, but to the State. This, I think, could be done if the State would buy the raw material, appoint competent men as managers and manufacture such goods as would find ready sale. These goods should be sold at auction every month to the highest bidder for cash. This would give every one a chance to buy, and get the benefit (if any) of cheap labor. It would then be only necessary to work the prisoners long enough to make the penal institutions self-supporting.

General consideration.—*From an engineer.*—In my humble opinion all workshops should cease working at 12 o'clock on Saturdays, so as to attend to repairs. No work should be done on Sunday. Fifty-five hours should constitute a week's work and wages should be regulated accordingly. All work done on Sundays (if must be) should receive double pay. Any person receiving an injury while at work should receive one-half of his pay until fit for duty. Perfect sewerage is indispensable to employes as well as ventilation in all workshops. A good apprentice law is needed, binding an apprentice to serve at least three years, and compelling employers to see that apprentices learn their trade thoroughly.

The apprentice system.—*From a printer.*—Our Legislature should enact a law that would compel an apprentice at any business to serve five years; it would be a great benefit to both employer and employe, and the different trades should see to it that no man went to the Legislature without pledging himself to work and vote for such a measure. The English system of binding boys and girls to different trades works all right there and would be productive of equally beneficent results here.

Piece work, arbitration, conciliation, etc.—*From a railroad employe.*—The subject of labor, in my opinion, is one of great moment and cannot be discussed amply within the limits of a letter. I will state a few of my ideas upon the matter: 1st. I believe the working classes would be better off were skilled labor to be paid by the *piece*, and unskilled by the *hour*; this would insure every man his just award for his time and trouble, and prevent loafers being remunerated the same as toiling men. 2d. That workmen and employers should cultivate a strictly honest basis of business and carry it out. If trades unions are preferred, admit into them true men and mechanics only, men who will unite in time of trial and settle their disputes by arbitration and not by mob violence. These results may be obtained after education shall have cleared away the forests of ignorance and superstition, and a brighter era will dawn upon us.

The duty of State to the people.—*From a coal miner.*—This capital and labor question is a very important one, and one that I do not feel able to grapple with. At the same time I believe it is the duty of every person interested to do all they can for the elevation and happiness of the whole people. One of the first things to be done is to shorten the chasm between capital and labor, and do away with class and class legislation, and teach the laboring classes that all wealth and material happiness comes from labor. To do this you must shorten the hours of labor and possibly increase wages so that the laborer can have time to read and investigate the true condition of himself and surroundings, and in this connection I believe there ought to be a reading room or rooms in every mining camp, town or city in this State, where men could meet and talk over their work and business, and become acquainted with each other's wants and views on all subjects pertaining to the general welfare of the laboring classes and the whole people. These reading rooms should be open at all times and free to all men, subject only to good behavior. They should be furnished with books

on science, art, history, mechanism, agriculture, and all that would promote the elevation of society. I believe the State ought to furnish all these means of education, free, to the working classes. It is true it would be attended with some expense, but then if it benefits the great masses of the people and the State financially, as it would do in a short time, why not do it? What are governments established for, if not for the benefit of all the people? It would lessen crime and pauperism, and keep men out of drinking and gambling saloons and many other places not to their interest to go to. It is a notorious fact that drinking saloons are the only places that are really free to all, and hence nearly all go there, especially young men, and these, of all others, ought not to go there. It is a fact that nearly all crime is the result of ignorance, and whatever can be done that will lessen or control these twin relics of a barbarous age, handed down through misrule and class legislation, will tend to the happiness of all.

The labor question.—*From a coal miner.*—My views as to the best mode of solving the "labor question," are as follows:

1st. Enact laws prohibiting any person from working for wages until they have attained their 14th year.

2d. Enact a law making it imperative for corporations to take in, as partners, as they are found intelligent and desirous of so doing, all their employes.

3d. Reduce the hours of labor to such a minimum as will require all the surplus labor now in the land. Then make it a crime for the man to eat who is able but unwilling to work or earn his bread by the sweat of his brow. Let muscle, where needed, be remonetized and made equal with brains, male and female alike.

4th. Pass laws to foster and protect true co-operation, productive and distributive. As I have given a general view of what I think would greatly solve the "labor question," I wish to state a few of my ideas on what would be of particular good in my own profession, that of "coal mining:"

1st. No mine with less than one thousand feet of air per minute per man should be allowed to be worked, under penalty.

2d. No mine should be worked unless it has an opening for the fresh air to descend, and one for the foul air to ascend; these two openings to be separate from each other, and also separated from the opening from which coal is hoisted.

3d. No cage should be used for lowering miners in or hoisting out of the mines, unless it has safety catches attached to it; also a sheet-iron covering over the cage.

4th. No man should be allowed to be an underground manager who does not understand the system of ventilating mines, and is not acquainted with the different gases commonly found in mines.

5th. There ought to be a State Inspector of Mines, with such number of deputies as may be required, and also a mining and ventilation law that would guarantee to the miner a check-weighman and the true weight of his product at the mine; and it should also provide for the payment of labor, in cash, at least once every two weeks.

The Labor Question—*From a Plasterer*—I will endeavor, in the small space to which I am allotted, to give my perhaps peculiar views: The first factor in the creation of all wealth is the raw material, or earth, air and water, which was given to man without price, and as man has not created any since, he has no right to buy or sell it. "The land is mine, saith the Lord, and shall not be sold forever," but as some one has to take charge of its distribution, it necessarily follows that the Government should have charge of this duty. Of course, I mean a Government in which every man and woman would have the right to vote. This Government, necessarily a democratic one,

would have a land limitation which would prevent the landlord, which now exists, and which is no more nor less than a legalized robbery. The next factor in the production of wealth is labor, and under the system just laid down it would be impossible for labor to rob itself; it would necessarily have all its fruits. But as all men cannot be agriculturists, we must examine the "labor question" in another sphere. The kind of labor engaged in building, mining, weaving, printing, etc., require some of the fruits of the agriculturist's toil, and, of course, must give in exchange a part of theirs. To facilitate exchanges, we need money. Money is, therefore, not value, but a measure of value, and as our Congress has the only right to regulate measures of weight, value, etc., it is the duty of Congress to issue money; that is, define what shall be money, and give to it the stamp of the nation at the smallest possible cost. There is where labor is robbed under the present system of Government. Congress has given away to a corporation the right to create money and charge interest as it can get it from those who must perforce take it. Every dollar of interest is so much robbed and given to foster an idle and vicious class of would-be aristocrats, who become, under our system, our legislators. Can labor get proper legislation from such a source? As well might the Christian expect money from Shylock. Now, as money does not make one of the factors which create wealth, it only measures it; how is it, or on what principle of justice should the laborer pay rent or interest for it? Interest on money and rent for land are both robberies. How can interest on money be destroyed? By having the Government alone issue money, at the smallest possible cost, and by refusing to give the coercive powers of society for its collection. Government should also own and regulate all public highways, railways, telegraph systems and all national necessities as it does the post office. Loans of money to settlers on public lands would be a safer and better investment than in Pacific railroads or Indian Bureaus. I do not think that trades unions can be very effective in doing much material good for the working classes at best; they only claim a part of that which labor has produced; it has been thoroughly tested in England, and the English working classes are not any nearer heaven. Morally, socially or politically, co-operation has been tried there successfully in one very notable case—the Rochdale, but it is co-operative usury; co-operation, to be of any lasting benefit, must be material. I believe that the working classes need more time for study and improvement to give such serious matters their proper attention; therefore, I am in favor of the eight hour law, as I think that all the work can be done in that time.

General Consideration.—*From a Printer.*—The first grand principle for which workingmen should strive is the abolition of the wage system, but meanwhile it cannot be done in a year, and it is our duty to cultivate friendship with our employer and make him understand that his best interest is ours also, and *vice versa*. And most of all, let it be known that to strike against a man is to make him an enemy *for life*. The remedy is in going to him and telling him that your wages are insufficient, and demand an increase, and if he fails to grant it, to use your best judgment in regard to still remaining in his employ. There is no law compelling a man to work for another, and if pay is insufficient, or payment is not made at agreeable time, or if there is any reason whatsoever why satisfaction of habit should be made, the calm law of judgment is the efficacious code by which the toiler must be governed. But let him not move too fast. Not until he has bettered his prospects let him move at all. "Look before you leap," should be the motto of every one. There is another thing I wish to say, and that is this: Rum is dragging the human race down to wage slavery; rum is the monumental enemy of the family, and one of the first important steps taken in behalf of the toiling man should be the incorporation of a temperance plank in the platform.

It is not that I am a temperance man myself, for I am not, but it is the truth, and the sooner the break is made and the truth let out the better it will be for the working-man.

General consideration.—*From a carpenter.*—I have had thirty years' experience as a practical mechanic, mostly in large cities. I served an apprenticeship of four years in Cincinnati; have worked there and in St. Louis and San Francisco up to the time of settling here two years ago. Made this (Macon City) my home in preference to a large city because I could have more liberty in a small place than in a large one. The labor problem is one that I have given a good deal of attention and thought, and am as far from a satisfactory solution as I ever was. The truth is, most men are the architects of their own fortunes. If more time was given to study and more effort made to save and accumulate they would be far more prosperous. But on the strength of that comes the argument that constant labor unfits a man for mental activity. While that is in a great measure true, still I do not think so much so as generally made to appear. Trades unions, as they have been generally conducted, have proved far more injurious than beneficial. Co-operation has generally proved a failure, and the man who has started out to "paddle his own canoe" has generally been the fortunate one. That something is needed, no one who is at all acquainted with the situation but must admit. Now the question is, what is it? We need an apprentice system that will insure good workmen. At the present time it is almost impossible to procure men who are thoroughly drilled in the rudiments of the trades but are largely made up of men who have taken up the trade by piecemeal and in time of scarcity. Always count against the mechanic that is hired for lower wages. We need a system of savings banks that will make the workingman's savings absolutely secure. The failure of the banks a few years ago did more to demoralize and discourage the workingmen than any other thing of the hard times. Postoffice savings banks, similar to those in England, would accomplish that end, or the issuing of bonds of small denominations by the government bearing a low rate of interest. We also need a compulsory education law, compelling persons to send their children to school eight months in the year, from 8 to 16 years of age, and the State should at all times furnish the books to every child, free. The hours of labor at present are too long, but if a reduction of hours will be followed by a reduction of wages, then, I say, let the present system remain. There are many other subjects to be considered, but those measures I have mentioned may be enacted with beneficial results to all concerned.

. Education and a Mining Law.—*From a Coal Miner.*—We need less hours work so that we can educate ourselves and our children, that they and theirs may be an honor to their country, not as slaves, but as workingmen and women. The rope broke in the shaft last week and the cage fell to the bottom of the shaft, a distance of one hundred feet; the shaft had no safety cathes on; no one, however, was hurt. Now I, for one, think that the Legislature ought to pass a law to protect miners from such accidents as this by compelling operators to have safety cathes on cages and safety slides on top.

Railroad Extortion and Mining Laws.—*From a Miner.*—In reply to your request I will offer practical suggestions bearing on the mining industries of the State. You are aware that this State is blessed with large deposits of mineral, consisting chiefly of coal, iron and lead, which are found in great abundance. We only require a spirit of enterprise exhibited in this State to develop those hidden treasures, and make it one of the most gigantic and remunerative in the State. In order to accomplish this, certain laws should be enacted to protect the miner in his vocation, such as a bill for the proper ventilation of mines, similar to those in Indiana, Illinois, Iowa and Pennsylvania.

nia, with a mine inspector to see that the law is properly enforced. Another evil that demands attention, viz: Railroad extortion in this State, by charging exorbitant rates on coal and other mineral to competing points, that to a great extent crush out all enterprise of this kind. If there was a law to regulate and adjust freight rates and to prohibit railroads from charging enormous rates, it would be a great advantage to the State.

Incompetent workmen.—*From a Miller.*—If you can think of any way by which an evil that is a curse to my calling can be eradicated, you will furnish one proof at least of the necessity and usefulness of the Bureau. To be plain, my business is milling, and here comes along one who, because he knows he is not a thorough practical workman, offers to fill my place for one-half the wages that a competent man knows he ought to get. The proprietor does not hire him, but he uses him to force the good workman to submit to a reduction of wages. I think there ought to be a law to require every man to submit to an examination before he is allowed to engage in any calling.

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PART XIV.

# FARMING.

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## FARMING.

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A knowledge of the conditions, circumstances, encouragements and discouragements encountered in the pursuit of any branch of labor contributing to the progress and well being of society, is at all times of peculiar interest to those who delight in studies of this kind. But when the knowledge sought is circumscribed and brought within the narrow confines of one particular branch, and that the leading one, the interest attaching to it becomes not only peculiar, but of the first magnitude in its consequence to the human race. Such is the importance attached to the calling of "the hand that holds the plow."

While the accompanying tables present with satisfactory minuteness of detail the various methods pursued by the farmer in his diversified operations, the interest and value thereof are largely increased by the addition of his views as given under the head of "Remarks," or "Opinions and Suggestions." While the tabulated statements exhibit the most varied and interesting information of the number of acres owned or rented, amount and value of crops and other products, the employment of labor and the effect of the introduction of farming machinery thereon, wages and how paid, hours of labor, opportunities for education and other things most necessary to know, there are other questions seriously affecting the interest of the farmer not touched upon in the tables. It was, therefore, to afford the farmers of the State an opportunity to express their views as to the nature and character of the evils they were subjected to, and which they believed could be removed by legislation, that they were requested to make, under the head of "Remarks," such suggestions for the benefit of their calling, as experience had shown to be necessary. A careful examination of their views, it must be confessed, throws considerable light upon many transactions which, while most necessary for the statesman and legislator to know, to legislate wisely thereon, does not usually find its way to public view. Among other evils complained of, are to be found unequal taxation, patent right nuisances, railroad discriminations and land-poor farmers. Increased intelligence through agricultural papers, "union," co-operation, representation in the Legisla-

ture, compulsory education and immigration, are among the suggestions as remedial agencies.

Impelled by a desire to gather the most reliable information in regard to the farming interests of the State, the Bureau, in the month of January, addressed letters to various officers of the State and subordinate granges, and other intelligent farmers not connected with the organization, requesting them that this department be furnished "names and addresses" of responsible farmers in their respective vicinities. The request was promptly responded to, and we are under many obligations to Mr. Henry Eshbaugh, Master of the State Grange, and others, for addresses furnished of leading farmers in all parts of the State.

In the month of February, blanks were mailed to every address received by us, of which the following is a copy:

STATE OF MISSOURI,  
BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS,  
ST. LOUIS, Feb. 1, 1880. }

This blank is issued in compliance with the law of the State, creating a Bureau of Labor Statistics (approved May 19, 1879).

Section 2. The object of this department shall be to collect, assort, systematize and present in annual reports to the Governor, to be, by him, transmitted biennially, to the General Assembly, statistical details relating to all departments of labor in the State, especially in its relation to the commercial, industrial, social, educational and sanitary condition of the laboring classes, and to the permanent prosperity of the productive industries of the State.

You are respectfully requested to assist the Bureau in making a report, as contemplated by law, by filling out this blank and returning it to this office in the enclosed envelope within thirty days.

The questions to be answered are asked in all seriousness, and with a view to promote the prosperity of the farming interests of the State, and *not to levy taxes*. Your name will not be made public in any way. Careful and conscientious replies are expected.

This blank is to be filled for the year ending December 31, 1879.

Yours respectfully,

W. H. HILKENE, Commissioner.

[Directions for filling and returning the blank.]

1. If you are unable to answer all questions *answer those you can*.
2. If you can not, or do not wish to answer *any of the questions*, you will oblige us by *returning the circular* that we may know you can not reply.
3. Extended answers to any questions are solicited and may be written upon the page headed "*Remarks*," or upon extra sheets if necessary.
4. If you know of any farmer who can give the information asked for in this circular please forward his name and postoffice address.

#### FARMER'S BLANK.

1. Name.
2. Postoffice address.
3. How many acres of land have you?—What is its assessed value?
4. Do you own or rent said farm?—How many acres in cultivation?
5. What was the total value of your crops produced in 1879?—What was the total expense for raising said crop?
6. How many hired men do you employ on your farm in summer?—How many in winter?
7. What are the wages of farm hands per month with board?—Highest wages?—Lowest wages?
8. Wages per month of farm hands *without board*?—Highest wages?—Lowest?
9. How often do you pay your farm hands?—Do you pay them in cash, orders or produce?
10. Are women ever employed in your county?—If yes, when?—How many hours per day?
11. Are children under 14 years of age ever employed by you or in your vicinity?—If yes, when?—What kind of work?
12. Have such children opportunities for schooling any season of the year?—If yes, how many weeks in the year?—How many hours per day?
13. How many hours per day do your hired men work in summer?—How many in winter?
14. Has farming machinery been introduced to any extent in your county?—If yes, name the kind?
15. What has been its effect generally?—Has it increased or decreased the *need* of skilled farm laborers?—How much has it reduced wages of farm hands?—Has it caused less to be employed?
16. Were many farm laborers out of employment in your county in the winter of 1878?
17. Are there any farms in your county that have over 100 acres in cultivation?—If yes, state the number?
18. What measures would you suggest that would advance the interests of the farmers of Missouri (answer under head of remarks)?

#### REMARKS.

The above blank was mailed (as remarked before) in the month of February, in order that they would reach the farmers before the busy season opened out. No doubt existed in our mind that a feeble re-

sponse to our interrogatories would be the result, were the blanks sent out during the active season of the year. While we were somewhat disappointed in our expectations in the number of blanks returned, those that were gave evidence of a desire to assist the Bureau in making such a report as the law contemplated. In answering the questions many availed themselves of the opportunity afforded under the head of "remarks," of expressing their views upon those questions that appeared to them to affect their interests most injuriously. Others treated the subject in a general way, yet, in such a manner as to show that were they represented in the State and National Legislature, many of the evils complained of would be speedily abolished. And we fearlessly assert, that so long as the farmers entrust their interests in the hands of professional politicians, so long will they be at the mercy of railroad monopolies, tax dodgers, usurers, and kindred schemers. Is it to be expected that lawyers, bankers and railroad kings should enact laws other than to benefit themselves?

In the following tables will be found the result of our investigations. The Bureau sent out 428 blanks, and 187, or 43½ per cent., were returned filled, 7 blank, and 3 unfit for tabulation:

TABLE XXVIII.—FARMING—ACRES, ASSESSED VALUE, COST OF RAISING CROPS.

No. of return.	Locality.	Owner or tenant	Acres of land.	Assessed value.	Acres in cultivation.	Value of crops.	Cost of raising crops.
1	Hazel Run.....	Owner..	805	\$2,500 00	185	\$950 00	\$500 00
2	Buffalo.....	"	420	1,000 00	60	425 00	175 00
3	Harlem.....	Both....	250	3,125 00	140	1,500 00	500 00
4	Colemansville.....		160	1,600 00	60	400 00	80 00
5	Zig.....	Owner ..	120	1,000 00	80		
6	Bluffton.....	"	160	320 00	20	500 00	100 00
7	Moberly.....	"	270	3,000 00	153	300 00	
8	Breckenridge.....	"	280	5,600 00	200	1,500 00	800 00
9	Black Walnut.....	Rent ....	85	2,125 00	80	700 00	200 00
10	Ashland.....	Owner..	125	500 00	70	250 00	
11	Warrenton.....	"	120	600 00	80	450 00	
12	Warrick.....	Both....	1,000	1,200 00	400		
13	Buffalo.....	Owner..	500	3,700 00	800	700 00	
14	Harrisonville.....	"	360	1,700 00	200	1,200 00	600 00
15	Palmyra.....	"	160	1,500 00	100	1,100 00	300 00
16	Bethany.....	"	47	385 00	40		
17	West Plains.....	"	176	1,000 00	65	450 00	125 00
18	Steelville.....	Rent ...	300	1,500 00	90	800 00	250 00
19	Commerce.....	Owner...	600	5,000 00	100		
20	Rensselaer.....	"	740	8,880 00	350	1,000 00	200 00
21	Aullville.....	"	120	1,000 00	80	2,000 00	800 00
22	Arcola.....	Rent....	200	2,000 00	120		

TABLE XXVIII.—Continued.

No. of return.	Locality.	Owner or tenant.	Acres of land.	Assessed value.	Acres in cultivation.	Value of crops.	Cost of raising crops.
23	Woodlandville.....	Owner ..	540	\$10,000 00	290	\$2,330 00	\$1,050 00
24	Coffman.....	"	127	765 00	70	600 00	100 00
25	Van Buren.....	Rent ..	200	700 00	60	500 00	170 00
26	Bloomfield.....	Owner ..	240	1,200 00	175	2,000 00	400 00
27	Charleston.....	"	8,000	10,000 00	1,030		
28	Palmyra.....	"	480	9,600 00	380	3,200 00	1,066 00
29	Baker's Grove.....	"	80	280 00	40		
30	Mexico.....	"	1,800	15,000 00	600	4,100 00	500 00
31	Bloomfield.....	"	662	2,600 00	216	700 00	350 00
32	Bellevue .....	"	50	600 00	35	400 00	
33	Ozark.....	"	180	550 00	40	450 00	100 00
34	Harrisonville .....	Rent ..	1,000	20,000 00	400		
35	Ashland.....	"	714	8,500 00	280	2,500 00	1,300 00
36	Richmond.....	"	900	10,000 00	600		1,000 00
37	Calhoun.....	Owner ..	80	700 00	60	200 00	50 00
38	Lian Creek.....	"	160	400 00	60	200 00	
39	Alma Mines.....	"	120	200 00	26	250 00	
40	Harrisonville.....	"	360	3,600 00	130	1,000 00	
41	Horine.....	"	80	900 00	60	500 00	150 00
42	Pineville.....	"	800	5,100 00	200		
43	Caruthersville.....	"	599	7,000 00	300	3,400 00	1,500 00
44	New Hope.....	"	680	4,400 00	350	1,000 00	600 00
45	Appleton City.....	"	277	1,480 00	185	1,430 00	
46	Loutre Island.....	"	147	800 00	80	500 00	50 00
47	Stockton.....	"	1,713	5,200 00	518	1,860 00	860 00
48	Lamar.....	"	830	1,600 00	200	800 00	
49	Harrisonville.....	"	167	1,670 00	90	700 00	100 00
50	Gallatin.....	"	560	3,000 00	240	600 00	200 00
51	Bethforge.....	"	128	600 00	50	500 00	150 00
52	Rockport.....	Rent ..	2,000	20,000 00	800		
53	Clinton.....	Owner ..	800	960 00	80	550 00	25 00
54	California.....	"	76	1,000 00	36	248 00	181 00
55	McNail.....	"	105	1,200 00	60	400 00	25 00
56	Centreville.....	"	400	400 00	40		
57	Plattsburgh.....	Rent ..			80	300 00	70 00
58	DeSoto.....	Owner ..	820	1,200 00	120	300 00	60 00
59	Urbana.....	"	280	3,250 00	200	1,186 00	300 00
60	DeBruin.....	"	280	560 00	80	800 00	300 00
61	Etna.....	"	650	5,000 00	440	2,600 00	
62	Rolla.....	"	200	600 00	50	300 00	
63	Camden.....	"	720	5,040 00	180	1,550 00	
64	New London.....	"	500	4,000 00	130	1,100 00	
65	Baffalo.....	"	440	2,000 00	200	1,100 00	200 00
66	Birdseye Ridge.....	"	2,000	10,000 00	1,200	5,200 00	3,500 00
67	Hillsboro.....	"	500	3,000 00	200	650 00	275 00
68	Guthridge Mills.....	"	320	2,500 00	120	800 00	300 00
69	Standford .....	"	105	300 00	50	100 00	50 00
70	Lindenville.....	Rent ..	200	1,000 00	60		
71	Warrensburg.....	Owner ..	470	4,455 00	180		
72	Piedmont.....	Both....	72	400 00	25	350 00	75 00
73	Poplar Bluffs.....	Owner ..	820	7,000 00	280	2,150 00	960 00
74	Hazel Run.....	Rent ..	120	8,000 00	75	800 00	380 00
75	Loutre Island.....	Owner ..	185	1,240 00	105		
76	Lincoln.....	"	240	2,400 00	160	1,200 00	400 00
77	Charleston.....	"	729	7,000 00	640	8,000 00	

TABLE XXVIII.—Continued.

No. of return.	Locality.	Owner or tenant.	Acres of land.	Assessed value.	Acres in cultivation.	Value of crops.	Cost of raising crops.
78	Charleston.....	Owner..	140	\$1,300 00	80	\$800 00	\$80 00
79	Rocky Mount.....	"	200	2,080 00	100		
80	Paris.....	"	880	2,460 00	280	800 00	400 00
81	California.....	"	120	1,800 00	110	1,190 00	107 00
82	Hancock.....	"	120	400 00	40		
83	Brush College.....	"	80	2,000 00	80	1,200 00	300 00
84	Charleston.....	"	160	1,200 00	90	788 00	128 00
85	Carthage.....	"	320	1,850 00	120		
86	Marshfield.....	Rent....	160	1,500 00	60	500 00	200 00
87	Lincoln.....	Owner..	260	1,260 00	100		
88	Mount Vernon.....	Rent....	200	2,000 00	120	1,100 00	
89	Maysville.....	"	40	240 00	38		
90	Shibley's Point.....	Owner..	216	1,600 00	165	1,360 00	
91	Elm Grove.....	"	80	1,300 00	65	1,000 00	250 00
92	Ravenna.....	"	197	1,200 00	100	500 00	200 00
93	Freeland.....	Rent....	1,240	2,000 00	130	900 00	230 00
94	Huntsville.....	Owner..	450	4,000 00	200	700 00	300 00
95	Wolf Island.....	"	360	3,600 00	280	3,000 00	1,000 00
96	Prohibition.....	Rent....	1,800	18,500 00	800	4,000 00	1,500 00
97	Gould Farm.....	Owner..	1,088	1,400 00	145	800 00	
98	Denver.....	"	370	8,700 00	300	2,000 00	1,000 00
99	Wet Glaize.....	"	320	900 00	80	200 00	50 00
100	Harrisonville.....	"	325	2,700 00	320	2,000 00	250 00
101	Columbia.....	"	392	600 00	220	1,000 00	200 00
102	Frazier.....	"	220	2,100 00	144	1,135 00	
103	Macon Mills.....	"	193	2,053 00	95	500 00	
104	Agency.....	"	84	1,000 00	65	650 00	
105	Oronogo.....	"	130	770 00	40		
106	Barton.....	"	160	800 00	110	1,200 00	300 00
107	Rolla.....	"	55	1,200 00	50	800 00	250 00
108	Mexico.....	"	360	8,000 00	240	2,500 00	500 00
109	Platte City.....	"	80	1,000 00	65	750 00	300 00
110	Breckenridge.....	"	784	6,460 00	640	600 00	110 00
111	Index.....	"	181	1,310 00	104	1,658 00	400 00
112	Dixon.....	"	120	400 00	40		
113	Cassville.....	"	160	800 00	80	350 00	100 00
114	Hazel Green.....	"	253	1,600 00	150	1,300 00	600 00
115	Turney Station.....	Rent....	110	5,130 00	110	500 00	170 00
116	Potosi.....	Owner..	150	1,400 00	70	550 00	
117	Bowling Green.....	"	640	6,400 00	500	2,000 00	250 00
118	Breckenridge.....	"	2,300	46,000 00	700		
119	Alton.....	"	160	800 00	75	400 00	120 00
120	Friendship.....	"	832	2,740 00	240		
121	Lee.....	"	160	700 00	50	300 00	100 00
122	Gunn.....	"	141	1,500 00	100	1,000 00	300 00
123	Dry Wood.....	"	200	840 00	125	995 00	100 00
124	Bloomfield.....	"	260	800 00	125	500 00	300 00
125	Palmyra.....	"	380	5,000 00	200	800 00	200 00
126	Harlem.....	"	390	4,875 00	160	2,500 00	700 00
127	Jamesport.....	"	260	2,060 00	200	1,150 00	550 00
128	St. Joseph.....	"	304	4,600 00	200	2,100 00	1,500 00
129	Kirksville.....	"	820	1,550 00	175	1,150 00	
130	New London.....	"	675	8,100 00	400	4,200 00	870 00
131	Roanoke.....	"	245	2,000 00	180	600 00	200 00
132	Young Creek.....	"	900	9,000 00	780	2,000 00	400 00
133	East Lynne.....	Rent....	200	2,000 00	160	1,800 00	500 00

TABLE XXVIII.—Continued.

No. of return.	Locality.	Owner or tenant.	Acres of land.	Assessed value.	Acres in cultivation.	Value of crops.	Cost of raising crops.
134	Roscoe.....	Owner..	44	\$200 00	25	\$200 00	\$100 00
135	California.....	"	870	8,300 00	170	415 00	210 00
136	Agentville.....	"	160	1,400 00	100	400 00	105 00
137	Index.....	"	70	475 00	50	425 00	250 00
138	Goshen.....	"	200	1,150 00	100		
139	Potterville.....	"	160	800 00	40	800 00	40 00
140	Sturgeon.....	"	212	1,800 00	82	800 00	
141	Louisburgh.....	Rent.....		1,800 00		500 00	100 00
142	Little Osage.....	Owner..	820	6,000 00	300	1,500 00	100 00
143	New London.....	"	340	4,080 00	300	1,500 00	
144	Kirksville .....	"	700	4,900 00	350	1,200 00	400 00
145	Latham .....	"	320	1,580 00	280	505 00	140 00
146	Morley.....	"	8,000	16,000 00	1,000		
147	Stewartville.....	"	223	2,230 00	150	1,050 00	
148	Hannibal.....	"	1,200	16,800 00	1,100		
249	Nashville.....	"	160	1,400 00	120	880 00	200 00
150	Steelville.....	"	650	1,600 00	150	1,200 00	500 00
151	Worcester.....	"	200	2,000 00	200	1,500 00	500 00
152	Bertrand.....	"	400	6,000 00	360	3,600 00	2,000 00
153	Lamar.....	"	240	1,200 00	150	680 00	
154	New Madrid.....	"	500	4,000 00	320	8,400 00	1,200 00
155	Benton.....	"	850	7,000 00	140	1,250 00	850 00
156	South Fork.....	"	200	1,000 00	40	200 00	75 00
157	Mayville.....	Rent....	275	2,830 00	225	588 00	250 00
158	Aullville.....	Both....	160	1,900 00	160		
159	Commerce.....	Owner..	1,480	.....	833	8,300 00	2,900 00
160	Covington.....	Owner..	125	\$1,250 00	50	\$600 00	\$200 00
161	Commerce.....	"	410	7,950 00	160	2,500 00	900 00
162	New Albany.....	"	550	3,750 00	200		
163	Morley.....	"	1,000	4,000 00	850	1,000 00	300 00
164	Harrisonville.....	"	138	1,200 00	90	250 00	125 00
165	Dallas Co.....	"	86	300 00	40	100 00	50 00
166	Lincoln.....	"	200	2,400 00	240	1,400 00	300 00
167	Van Buren.....	"	508	1,200 00	75	400 00	195 00
168	Perry .....	"	400	3,200 00	300		
169	Sikeston.....	"	8,000	2,000 00	1,000	12,000 00	8,400 00
170	Young Creek.....	"	440	3,540 00	400	1,100 00	320 00
171	Apex.....	"	550	4,000 00	240	1,800 00	600 00
172	Brookline.....	"	292	2,258 00	110	700 00	700 00
173	Caput.....	"	320	1,060 00	40	250 00	185 00
174	Clarksfork.....	"	80	1,200 00	80	700 00	470 00
175	Fayetteville.....	"			120	970 00	147 00
176	Knob Noster.....	"	500	3,990 00	300	700 00	292 00
177	Knob Noster.....	"	400	6,000 00	300		
178	Holden .....	"	240	2,400 00	180	1,000 00	500 00
179	Fayetteville.....	"	200	1,600 00	127	1,280 00	550 00
180	Holden .....	"	214	1,200 00	65	900 00	750 00
181	Carrollton.....	Rent....	60	6,000 00	40	150 00	
182	Clark's Fork.....	Owner..	80	2,000 00	40	700 00	385 00
183	Van Buren.....	"	160	1,200 00	60	350 00	120 00
184	Columbia.....	"	240	1,600 00	150	800 00	
185	Rocheport.....	"	483	6,000 00	325	1,500 00	300 00
186	Emporia.....	"	150	1,000 00	115	1,000 00	300 00
187	Commerce.....	"	400	4,000 00	180	2,000 00	1,000 00

In analyzing the above table we find that it represents 187 farms, 161 being owned by the persons making the returns, 21 rented and 4 partly rented and partly owned. The total number of acres in 184 farms (three not answering) is 77,649, or an average of 422 acres to each farm, the largest containing 3,000 and the smallest 40 acres. The assessed value of the above farms, as returned to the Bureau, is \$607,256, or an average of \$7.82 per acre. In footing up the next column we find that the total number of acres in cultivation in 186 farms amounts to 37,207, or an average of 200 to each farm. In regard to the "value of products" and "cost of raising the same," the Bureau presents the tabulated statements as received; they are evidently guess-work, with exceptions, as few families keep an itemized book account of their expenses:

TABLE XXIX.—FARM HANDS, WAGES PER MONTH, FARM MACHINERY, ETC.

No. of Blank.	In Summer.	In Winter.	Without Board.	With Board.	Been introduced into your county?		The increased or decreased need of skilled farm hands?	Reduced wages of farm hands?	Caused less hands to be employed?	Number of farms in county of over 100 acres in cultivation.	Number of farm hands idle in winter of 1878.
					Has Farming Machinery	Hired Men.					
1	4	3	\$10 to \$15	\$15 to \$21	Yes.	No.....	None.....	Yes.....	None.....	Seven-eighths.....	Yes, good many.
2	2	1	7 to 10	10 to 15	"	.....	None.....	.....	.....	A few.....	Probably 20 or more.
3	8	4	10 to 15	20 to 30	"	.....	Increased.....	.....	.....	Some.....	Good many.
4	1	1	10 to 15	18 to 30	Some.	Decreased.	"	Yes.....	.....	"	.....
5	5	6	10 to 20	20.....	Yes.	.....	No.....	.....	.....	No.....	Yes, good many.
6	6	7	10 to 15	15.....	.....	.....	No.....	.....	.....	"	Plenty.
7	7	8	8 to 18	18.....	.....	.....	No.....	.....	.....	Yes.....	Very likely 500.
8	8	1	15 to 18	25 to 30	"	.....	Increased.....	.....	.....	Yes.....	One-sixth in county.
9	9	2	10 to 15	20 to 25	New.	.....	Decreased.....	.....	.....	Yes.....	One-third in county.
10	10	11	8 to 16	16.....	Yes.	.....	One-fourth.....	.....	.....	Yes.....	One-half in county.
11	12	5	8 to 18	20 to 25	"	.....	Decreased.....	.....	.....	Yes.....	Over 1,000.
12	13	3	8 to 18	20 to 25	"	.....	Decreased.....	.....	.....	Yes.....	15 or 20.
13	14	1	8 to 18	20 to 25	"	.....	Decreased.....	.....	.....	Yes.....	At least half.
14	15	1	8 to 16	20	"	.....	Decreased.....	.....	.....	Yes.....	Plenty.
15	16	1	18 to 20	15 to 26	"	.....	Decreased.....	.....	.....	Yes.....	One-tenth of all farms.
16	17	2	12 to 16	13 to 18	Some.	Increased.....	.....	.....	None.....	Yes.....	Twenty-two.
17	18	3	8 to 12	12 to 15	Yes.	.....	.....	.....	Yes.....	No.....	Very few.
18	19	2	12 to 16	20 to 25	"	.....	All at work.....	.....	Yes.....	No.....	At least 100.
19	20	3	12 to 20	20	"	.....	Increased.....	.....	Yes.....	No.....	One-half in county.
20	21	8	8 to 18	18 to 26	"	.....	.....	.....	Yes.....	No.....	More than one-half.
21	22	9	9 to 16	16	"	.....	.....	.....	Yes.....	No.....	Several.
22	23	4	10 to 16	12 to 20	"	.....	.....	.....	None.....	No.....	Two-thirds of county.

TABLE XXXIX.—Continued.

Hired Men.	Wages per Month.	Has Farming Machinery		Number of farms in county of over 100 acres in cultivation.
		Reduced wages of farm hands?	Canvassed less hands to be employed?	
24	*	\$10	\$10	I know of one.
25	1	\$8 to 12	\$14 to \$18	12 or 15.
26	2	10 to 15	No.	Over 200.
27	8	13 to 12	Decreased.	One-half in county.
28	3	22 to 15	None.	Great many.
29	1	10 to 15	Increased.	Two-thirds in county.
30	4	3	None.	One-half in county.
31	2	10 to 12	15 to 18	75 perhaps or more.
32	1	10 to 20	20 to 26	Several.
33	1	10 to 16	15 to 20	A great many.
34	1	18 to 15	20	100 or more.
35	8	8 to 10	13	10 or more.
36	4	15 to 10	25	About 75.
37	1	10 to 15	15 to 20	500 at any rate.
38	1	8 to 10	15	About 50.
39	1	13 to 20	20	Few.
40	6	6 to 15	18 to 20	Few.
41	6	12	18 to 20	Yes.
42	2	1	10 to 15	Few.
43	4	3	18 to 20	"
44	2	1	10 to 18	"
45	1	12 to 16	18 to 24	"
46	4	10 to 20	20	"



TABLE XXIX.—Continued.



TABLE XXXIX.—Continued.

Hired men.	Wages per month.	Has Farming Machinery		Number of farms in county of over 100 acres in cultivation.
		Without Board.	With Board.	
154	6	\$9 to \$15	\$17 to \$20	About one-half.
155	5	10 to 18	15 to 20	Many.
156	2	10 to 18	15 to 20	About 200.
157	2	10 to 18	15 to 20	Mostly all over that.
158	1	15 to 18	18 to 22	Great many.
159	11	1	14	Over half in county.
160	8	5	10 to 15	Twenty or more.
161	2	1	7 to 10	Good many.
162	3	8	10 to 15	Good many.
163	2	1	12 to 16	Some over 500 acres.
164	1	1	12 to 16	Over 26.
165	2	1	13 to 18	About 300.
166	2	1	10 to 12	A majority.
167	2	1	13 to 20	Over 100.
168	2	1	12 to 15	Two-fifths.
169	2	1	10 to 15	Nearly all.
170	2	1	10 to 15	Five hundred or 600.
171	3	2	10 to 14	Six, that I know of.
172	2	1	20 to 25	Two-thirds in county.
173	1	1	10 to 15	No. None.
174	1	1	10 to 15	No. None.
175	1	1	8 to 20	No. None.
176	2	1	18 to 20	No. None.
177	1	1	15 to 25	No. None.

Number of blank.



In analyzing the above table it shows that 135 of the 187 farmers employ 369 farm hands in the summer season, and 188 in winter, leaving the balance of 181 to find employment elsewhere when the summer season is over, who, as a rule, come to cities to crowd the already over-stocked labor market, or become tramps, and when their few dollars are spent, for want of employment become inmates of soup houses, for their scant earnings during the summer season are insufficient to carry them through the winter.

Wages, with board, range from \$8.00 to \$18.00, and in some instances as high as \$20.00 and \$25.00 per month. Wages, without board, from \$10.00 to \$30.00 per month; but as a rule few hands are employed on the farm in this manner.

**Machinery.**—All kinds of steam and horse power threshers, reapers, mowers, corn crushers, stalk cutters, self binders, seed drills, gang plows, sulky rakes, patent harrows and cultivators, rollers, corn droppers, clover hullers, riding plows, etc., have been introduced into the State. Some counties have more farming machinery than others, but all have some.

**Effects of machinery on labor.**—Increased the need of skilled labor, 83; decreased, 36; the balance answer: "neither;" "do not know;" "no difference;" "about same;" "think not;" "no change," etc. In answer to the question "has it reduced wages of farm hands?" 108 say "no;" 2 say "one-fourth;" 3 answer "one-third;" the balance report a reduction, varying from 5 to 35 per cent., one placing it as high as 50 per cent. "Has it caused less farm hands to be employed?" 84 answer "no;" 62 say "yes;" 1 says "one-third less;" another "20 per cent." Those answering give the additional testimony *pro* and *con*: "With machinery increased acreage can be cultivated, thus increasing the demand for help;" "in general farming, less; in threshing, more;" "greater labor is required to prepare the land for machinery;" "shortens the harvest."

The following are extracts from farmers' returns bearing on the effects of machinery on farm laborers:

*No. 33, Ozark.*—The introduction of agricultural machinery here has increased the need of skilled farm labor, and reduced the wages of unskilled at least 20 per cent.

*No. 53, Clinton.*—Farm machinery in this county (Henry) has increased the demand for skilled labor by bringing larger acreage into cultivation, and has increased the demand for more laborers, and has not had the effect to reduce wages.

*No. 54, California.*—Machinery has increased the need for a higher grade of skilled labor, and while wages have not been reduced, the number of laborers have been diminished.

*No. 61, Etna.*—Farm machinery has lessened the demand for labor, and reduced wages from \$4.00 to \$6.00 per month.

*No. 62, Rolla.*—The result of the application of machinery to farm labor here has been to increase the demand for skilled labor, and while wages have not been reduced the machinery has reduced the labors of the harvest.

*No. 70, Lindersville.*—Skilled labor is less in demand through the introduction of farm machinery, and fewer laborers are employed.

*No. 71, Warrensburg.*—The introduction of machinery has no perceptible effect on the skilled farm laborers here, as far as I can see; wages remain stationary and the labor market steady.

*No. 80, Paris.*—Machinery has increased the demand for skilled farm laborers here, but reduced wages 20 per cent. and caused fewer unskilled to be employed.

*No. 89, Maysville.*—I have no doubt were it not for improved machinery the demand for laborers would be greater and wages higher, but there would be far less grain produced, which would cause far more affliction among the laboring classes in cities than improved machinery causes among farm laborers.

In answer to question: *Were many farm laborers out of employment in the winter of 1878?* 57 say "no;" the balance answer "a few;" "tramps;" "several;" "yes;" "many;" "full of tramps," etc. *Are there any farms in your county that have over 100 acres in cultivation?* This question was answered by nearly all in the affirmative; it is evident that a farm with less than 100 acres in cultivation, is looked upon as a small concern in this State; but it is a question if large farms are the most profitable. A farmer from Dade county, writing to the Bureau, says: "There are a number of farmers in this vicinity that are *land poor*; better have fewer acres and till them well; the result is obvious; a better crop with less labor." The foregoing suggestion might be practiced by many of our large farm owners in this State with beneficial results.

TABLE XXX.

## FARMING—FARM LABORERS, WAGES, MODE OF PAYMENT, HOURS OF LABOR.

No. of return.	Farm laborers, how often paid.	Cash, order or produce.	Hours of labor, sum-	Hours of la-
			bhor.	bhor in win-
			mer.	ter.
1	When wanted.....	Cash.....	12	8
2	Monthly.....	Produce and cash.....	11	9
4	" "	" "	12	9
5	When wanted.....	Cash.....		
6	Monthly.....	All three.....	14	10
8	Every week.....	Cash and produce.....	10	8
9	Monthly.....	Cash.....	14	10
11	When called for.....	General cash.....	10 to 12	7 to 9
12	" "	Cash.....	12	8
13	" "	" .....	10	7
14	" "	" .....		
15	Monthly.....	Produce and cash.....	11 to 18	9 to 10
16	" .....	Cash.....	11 to 13	9 to 10
17	" .....	Produce, cash and orders.....	12 to 14	8 to 10
18	" .....		10 to 12	6 to 8
19	When wanted.....	Partly cash.....	12 to 14	10 to 12
20	" .....	" .....	10 to 14	8 to 10
22	Monthly.....	Generally cash.....	12 to 14	7 to 8
23	" .....	One-third cash.....	14	10
24	When wanted.....	Cash every time.....	12 to 14	8 to 10
25	Every day.....	Produce.....	10	8
26	Quarterly.....	Cash.....	8 to 10	8
27	Weekly.....	" .....	12	10
28	Monthly.....	" .....	12	8
30	When wanted.....	" .....	11	7 to 8
31	Monthly.....	Part cash.....	12	10
32	When wanted.....	As suits them.....	12	8
34	Monthly.....	Cash.....	10 to 12	8 to 10
35	When wanted.....	Produce and cash.....	10 to 14	9
36	" .....	" .....	12 to 18	8 to 10
37	Monthly.....	As a rule, cash.....	10	8
38	" .....	Cash.....	11 to 12	8 to 10
40	" .....	" .....	12 to 14	8 to 10
41	" .....	Both.....	12 to 14	8 to 10
43	When wanted.....	Cash.....	10 to 12	7
44	" .....	" .....	11	9
44	" .....	" .....	10	8
45	" .....	" .....	10 to 18	8 to 10
46	" .....	Cash, produce and orders.....	10 to 12	8 to 10
47	Monthly.....	Cash.....	10	8
48	" .....	" .....	13 to 14	8 to 9
49	Not your business.....	Both.....	12 to 14	8 to 10
50	Monthly.....	Cash.....	8 to 10	7 to 10
51	" .....	" .....	8	6
52	When wanted.....	Produce to men of families.....	8 to 10	8
53	Monthly.....	Cash.....	12	8
54	" .....	Produce and cash.....	12	9
55	" .....	" .....	10	8
56	When wanted.....	Cash.....	11	8
57	Monthly.....	" .....	15 to 17	10 to 14
58	Quarterly.....	" .....	10 to 14	8 to 10
59	Monthly.....	" .....	10	8
60	" .....	" .....	10	7
61	When wanted .....	Both.....	8 to 10	6 to 8
62	" .....	" .....	10 to 12	9 to 11
63	" .....	Cash.....	12 to 18	10
64	" .....	As wanted.....	10	8
65	Monthly.....	Cash.....	10	7
66	Weekly.....	" .....	12	9

TABLE XXX.—Continued.

No. of return.	Farm laborers, how often paid.	Cash, order or produce.	Hours of labor in summer.	Hours of labor in winter.
67	Monthly.....	Cash and produce.....	11	7
68	" .....	Mostly produce.....	12	8
69	" .....	Cash and produce.....	10	8
70	When due.....	Cash.....	10	9
71	When wanted.....	Always cash.....	10	9
72	" .....	Cash and produce.....	12	8
73	Monthly.....	" " "	10	8
74	" .....	" " "	11	8
75	" .....	Cash.....	12 to 14	8 to 10
76	When wanted.....	" .....	12	8
77	" .....	Produce and cash.....	12	9
78	" .....	Cash.....	12	9
79	Monthly.....	" .....	12	8
80	When wanted.....	Both.....	13	8
81	Weekly.....	Cash.....	11	9
83	When wanted.....	" .....	12	10
84	Monthly.....	" .....	10	7
86	When due.....	" .....	10	8
86	When wanted.....	Cash.....	14	10
87	Monthly .....	" .....	9 to 18	8 to 10
88	" .....	" .....	11 to 12	
89	When wanted.....	Mostly cash .....	11 to 13	8 to 10
90	When done.....	Cash.....	10	8
91	" .....	Produce order and cash.....		
92	No definite time.....	Cash .....	10	7
93	When done.....	Produce and cash.....	10	8
94	" .....	Cash.....	10	8
95	When earned.....	Always cash.....	10	8
96	When wanted.....	Bacon, flour and produce.....	10	7
97	When I have money	Cash .....	11	8
98	Mostly in advance..	As suits them.....	10	8
99	When in need of food	Part cash, generally store orders.....	11 to 13	8 to 9
100	Monthly.....	Cash and produce.....	11	9
101	" .....	" .....	12 to 14	8 to 11
102	Weekly .....	Cash.....	10	8
103	When wanted.....	" .....	10 to 12	7 to 10
104	Monthly .....	Men of family, produce.....	12 to 14	8 to 10
105	When I have money	Always cash.....	10 to 16	8
106	When time is up.....	Cash and otherwise.....	12	8
107	Weekly.....	Generally cash.....	10	9
108	When time is up.....	Produce and cash.....	9	
109	When wanted.....	" " .....	10	7
110	" .....	Cash.....	12 to 14	8 to 10
111	" .....	" .....	10 to 12	9
112	Monthly.....	In cash and otherwise.....	12	8
113	" .....	Produce in 1879.....	12 to 14	6 to 8
114	When wanted.....	Always cash.....	12 to 14	9 to 11
115	" .....	As wanted.....	12	9
116	" .....	Single men, cash ; men of families eat all they earn.....		
117	As they earn it.....	Mainly cash.....	11	9
118	" .....	Cash always.....	10	8
119	Monthly.....	" .....	8	7
120	When wanted.....	Cash .....	12 to 14	9 to 10
121	" .....	Produce and cash.....	10	7
122	.....	Cash.....	10	8
123	Monthly.....	Produce, little cash.....	12 to 14	9 to 11
124	" .....	Cash.....	12	10
125	" .....	Orders and cash.....	12	8
126	When wanted.....	Cash.....	12 to 14	6 to 11

TABLE XXX.—Continued.

No. of return.	Farm laborers, how often paid.	Cash, order or produce.	Hours of labor sum-mer.	Hours of labor win-ter.
127	Monthly.....	Cash exclusively.....	12 to 13	8 to 9
128	" .....	Generally cash.....	10	8
129	" .....	Part cash and orders.....	10	7
130	" .....	Cash and produce.....	12 to 14	10
131	.....	" " .....	12 to 13	9 to 10
132	As wanted.....	Cash.....	10 to 14	8 to 12
135	Sometimes weekly.....	Mostly cash.....	10	8
136	Monthly.....	Cash.....	10	6 to 8
137	When time is up.....	" .....	10	7
139	Monthly.....	Produce and cash.....	12	10
141	" .....	Cash.....	10	8
142	" .....	" .....	12	10
143	When wanted.....	Check on bank.....	10 to 12	7 to 8
144	" .....	Cash.....	12	9
145	Semi-monthly.....	Generally cash.....	12 to 14	9 to 11
146	Every day.....	" " .....	12 to 14	9 to 11
147	When wanted.....	Produce, cash as wanted.....	10 to 12	
149	Irregular.....	Cash .....	13 to 15	13
150	Monthly.....	Produce and cash.....	11 to 12	9
151	When wanted.....	Cash.....	12	10
153	" .....	" .....	12	8
154	Weekly.....	" .....	11 to 12	7 to 8
155	Monthly.....	Men of families, produce.....	10	7
156	When wanted.....	Produce and cash.....	12	9
157	" .....	Store orders, produce and cash.....	11 to 13	8
158	" .....	" " " .....	11 to 13	8
159	" .....	" " " .....	12 to 14	9 to 11
160	Monthly.....	Stock and cash.....		
161	When wanted.....	Produce and cash.....	10 to 12	6 to 8
162	When able to.....	Cash.....	10 to 12	9 to 11
163	1 and 3 months.....	Orders and cash.....	8 to 9	7 to 8
164	When due.....	All three.....	12 to 14	9 to 11
165	Monthly.....	Cash.....	10	8
166	When called for.....	" .....	10 to 12	8
167	" .....	" .....	10	8
168	" .....	" .....		
169	Monthly.....	" .....	11 to 12	8 to 10
170	" .....	Cash and cash orders.....	10	8
171	When wanted.....	Produce and cash.....	10 to 13	9 to 11
172	.....	In produce.....	11 to 13	9 to 11
173	Monthly.....	Orders and produce.....	12	10
174	Monthly.....	Cash.....	8	6
175	" .....	" .....	11	8
176	" .....	" .....	10 to 14	9
177	As wanted.....	As suits them.....	12 to 14	9 to 11
181	" .....	Cash generally .....		
182	Weekly.....	" " .....		
184	When due.....	" " .....	10 to 12	9 to 10
185	" .....	Cash, but also produce.....	12 to 14	9 to 11
187	When wanted.....	Produce and cash.....	10 to 11	7 to 8

In reviewing the above table it will be seen that no fixed rule prevails among the farmers as to time and mode of paying wages. As to time of the 187 returns, 65 pay monthly; 62 pay when called for; 16

when time is up; 9 weekly; 1 semi-monthly; 2 quarterly, and 2 daily. Again, 87 pay cash; 40 cash and produce; 17 in orders, cash, and produce; 4 exclusively in produce; 8 generally in cash, and three say, "produce to men of families; single men in cash." Return 116 (Potosi) remarks: "Pay single men in cash; married men eat all they earn," indicating that a man of family can barely earn enough to buy food for his family, clothing being out of the question.

The hours of labor vary according to the habits and ways of farm life, and while a few realize the importance of so limiting the hours of labor, even on the farm, as to afford themselves and help some leisure for relaxation and mental improvement, by far the larger portion tax the physical power of man and beast from dawn to dark, and night finds them like the animals they have just stabled, physically exhausted and ready to lie down to rest, with no aspiration for social enjoyment or intellectual pleasures.

TABLE XXXI.

FARMING—WOMEN AND CHILDREN EMPLOYED, HOURS OF LABOR,  
WEEKS' SCHOOLING TO BE HAD.

No. of return.	Women employed in field work.	When and what kind of work.	Children under 14 years		Have children opportunities for schooling.	No. of weeks' schooling to be had in year.	Hours per day.
			Employed in field.	Kind of work.			
1	No.		Yes.	Planting corn, harvesting...	9	Yes.	16 to 32
3	Yes.	Picking cotton....	"	General work.....		"	28 to 36
4	Few.	May and June....	"	Planting time.....	9	Yes.	28
5	Yes.	"	"	General work, all year....	10	Yes.	28
6	"	In vineyard....	"	In vineyard.....	11	"	20
8	No.	"	"	Hoeing, all kinds of work...	10	"	20
9	"	"	"	General farm work.....	11	"	12
10	"	"	"	Light work.....	13	"	16
11	"	"	"	Plowing corn.....		"	16 to 20
12	"	"	No.			"	7
15	Few.	In summer....	Yes.	All kinds of work.....	10	"	16 to 32
16	Seldom	" "				"	8
17	No.		Yes.	Planting and plowing.....	10	Yes.	24
18	"					"	15
19	Yes.	In harvest....	No.			"	8
20	"	"	Yes.	Plowing corn—in harvest...	10	"	12 to 32
21	Few.	In harvest....	"	" " " .....		"	6
22	No.	"	"	Light farm work.....		"	16 to 20
23	"	"	"	" " " .....		"	6
25	"	"	"	Plowing and hoeing corn...	10	"	16
26	"	"	"	Cultivating cotton.....	8	"	8
28	"	"	"				17

TABLE XXXI.—Continued.

No. of return.	Women employed in field work.	When and what kind of work.	Children under 14 years.			Have children opportunities for schooling.	No. of week's schooling to be had in year.	Hours per day.
			Employed in field.	Kind of work.	Hours of labor per day.			
30						"	16	8
31	No.		Yes.	Picking cotton.....	10	"	12	8
33	"		Yes.	General work.....	9	Yes.	30	8
34	"		"	" " "	"	"	16	6
35			No.	.....	"	"	24	6
37	No.		"	.....	"	"	.....	.....
38	"		Yes.	Light work.....		Yes.	30	6
39	"		No.	.....		"	16	6
40	"		Yes.	Plowing, hoeing, etc.....	10	"	20 to 40	6
41	Ger.	In summer.....	"	General work.....	11	"	16 to 20	8
42	Few.	In harvest.....	"	Picking cotton.....		"	16	8
43	Yes.	Picking cotton....	"	General farm work.....	10	"	16 to 24	6
44	No.		"	" " "	"	"	16 to 28	7
45	Yes.	In harvest.....	Yes.	Plowing, hoeing, chores....	11	"	16 to 24	6
46	Ger.	In summer..	"	General work .....	10	Yes.	16	8
47	No.		No.	.....	"	"	16	8
48	"		"	General work .....		"	8	.....
49	"		"	General work .....		"	30	6
50			Yes.	Light work .....	6	"	20	6
51	"		"	Plowing mostly.....	9	"	15 to 20	6
52	"		"	" " "	"	"	16	6
54	Yes.	In harvest .....	No.	.....	"	"	20	6
55	No.		Yes.	Planting corn .....		"	16 to 32	6
56	Yes.	Planting .....	"	.....	"	"	16 to 32	6
57	No.		"	" " "	11	"	.....	.....
58	"		"	Plowing, running chores ...	10	"	16 to 32	6
59	"		"	General work.....	10	"	24	6
60	"		No.	.....	"	"	20 to 30	6
61	"		Yes.	In harvest.....	9	"	16 to 40	6
62	"		No.	.....	"	"	16	6
63			Yes.	Run errands.....		"	26	6
65	No.		No.	.....	"	"	6	.....
66	"		"	General work .....		"	6	.....
68	Yes.	In summer.....	Yes.	General work .....	10	"	20	6
69	No.		No.	.....	"	"	16	8
70	Yes.	Planting .....	Yes.	Light work .....		Yes.	8	6
71	No.		"	Hoeing, plowing, etc.....	12	"	16	8
72	Yes.	Spring .....	"	Planting corn.....	10	"	16 to 32	6
74	"	Corn planting .....	"	.....	"	"	.....	.....
75	No.		Yes.	General work.....	10	Yes.	.....	.....
76	Ger.	In summer.....	"	Planting corn.....	10	"	16 to 24	7
77	No.		"	Plowing, hoeing, planting..	11	"	12 to 16	7
78	"		No.	.....	"	"	16	6
80	"		Yes.	Planting, harvesting.....	10	"	26	7
81	"		No.	.....	"	"	16	6
82	"		Yes.	Herdling stock.....	12	"	32	6
83	"		"	Plowing, hoeing, picking cotton .....	8	"	20	8
84	Yes.		"	Herdling stock.....	10	"	28	6
85	No.		"	General work .....	8	"	12 to 24	8
86	Yes.	All season.....	"	.....		Digitized by Google	16	6
87	"	Planting .....	"	.....				

TABLE XXXI.—Continued.

No. of return.	Women employed in field work.	When and what kind of work.	Children under 14 years.					
			Employed in field.	Kind of work.	Hours of labor per day.	Have children opportunities for schooling.		
88	No.	Planting .....	Yes.	Plowing, hoeing in garden.....	.....	Yes.	82	6
89	"	" .....	No.	.....	.....	"	82 to 40	6
90	"	" .....	Yes.	Planting, haying.....	8	"	12 to 26	6
91	"	" .....	"	Picking fruit.....	9	"	32	6
93	"	.....	No.	.....	.....	"	16	6
94	Yes.	In busy season .....	Yes.	Planting corn .....	8	"	16 to 24	8
95	No.	.....	No.	.....	.....	"	20	6
96	"	.....	"	.....	.....	"	.....	6
98	"	.....	Yes.	General work .....	.....	"	26	6
99	Yes.	Planting time .....	"	Planting and general work.....	10	"	12	8
100	"	In summer.....	"	Harvesting and planting.....	11	"	24 to 36	8
101	No.	.....	"	General work .....	10	"	18	8
102	"	.....	"	" "	.....	"	16 to 40	6
103	Yes.	In harvest.....	"	Plowing, hauling manure.....	10	"	12 to 16	8
104	No.	.....	"	Plowing, general work .....	11	"	24	6
105	Yes.	Planting corn .....	No.	.....	.....	"	12 to 28	8
106	No.	.....	Yes.	Herding stock, raking hay .....	10	"	40	6
107	"	.....	No.	.....	.....	"	16 to 40	4
108	"	.....	Yes.	General work .....	.....	"	12 to 16	...
109	"	.....	No.	.....	.....	"	16 to 36	7
110	"	.....	Yes.	Light work .....	.....	"	18	6
111	"	.....	"	Plowing, harrowing.....	11	"	18	6
112	"	.....	No.	.....	.....	"	13	6
113	"	.....	"	.....	.....	"	6	6
114	Yes.	.....	Yes.	Planting, hoeing crops .....	11	"	16 to 24	7
115	No.	.....	No.	.....	.....	"	24	6
116	"	.....	Yes.	In lead mines.....	11	No.	.....	..
117	"	.....	"	In planting corn.....	.....	Yes.	12 to 24	8
118	"	.....	"	Harvesting and other work .....	.....	"	35	6
119	"	.....	No.	.....	.....	"	16 to 20	7
120	"	.....	"	.....	.....	"	28 to 30	8
121	.....	.....	Yes.	General work.....	9	"	12	6
122	No	Picking castor beans .....	"	Plowing and hoeing .....	.....	"	24	6
123	Yes.	In summer.....	"	Plowing, picking castor beans .....	.....	"	24	6
124	"	.....	"	.....	11	"	32	6
125	No.	.....	"	In cotton field.....	10	"	12	6
127	Yes.	In harvest.....	"	Plowing, hoeing, etc .....	11	"	16	8
129	"	General work.....	"	Harvesting and plowing.....	8	"	32	6
130	No.	.....	No.	Light work .....	.....	.....	.....	..
131	Yes.	In harvest.....	Yes.	.....	.....	Yes.	12	6
132	No.	.....	"	In harvest time.....	12	"	40	6
133	.....	.....	"	Plow, harrow and cultivate .....	10	"	12 to 24	6
134	No.	.....	"	General work .....	10	"	12 to 24	6
135	Yes.	Planting corn .....	"	Planting, harvesting .....	11	"	16	6
136	"	In summer.....	"	Cultivating garden .....	10	"	16 to 20	7
137	No.	.....	Yes.	Planting corn with dropper .....	10	Yes.	16 to 32	6
138	.....	.....	"	Tend corn & other farm work .....	12	"	24 to 28	6
139	Yes.	Cotton picking .....	"	Scraping cotton in spring .....	11	"	12	8
141	No.	.....	"	All kinds of farm work .....	10	"	16	8
142	"	.....	"	General work .....	12	"	12 to 16	6
143	"	.....	"	Feeding stock .....	.....	"	12 to 16	7

TABLE XXXI.—Continued.

No. of return.	Women employed in field work.	When and what kind of work.	Children under 14 years.				
			Employed in field.	Kind of work.	Hours of labor per day.	Have children opportunities for schooling.	No. of weeks' schooling to be had in year.
144	Yes.	In summer.....	Yes.	Planting corn.....	12	Yes.	24 to 30
145	"	Corn planting.....	"	Light work.....	11	"	24 to 28
146	"	In spring.....	"	Planting and hoeing.....	12	"	16 to 18
147	No.	.....	"	Plowing and other work.....	.....	"	16
148	Yes.	In harvest.....	"	In harvest-shocking wheat.....	11	"	32
149	"	In summer.....	"	Plowing—from 9 years up.....	11	"	24
150	"	In spring.....	"	General work.....	10	"	12 to 16
151	No.	.....	No.	.....	.....	"	16
153	"	.....	Yes.	Plowing.....	10	"	16 to 28
155	Yes.	In summer.....	"	Plowing, planting, etc.....	10	"	15 to 24
156	"	" .....	"	Hoeing and picking cotton.....	6	little	8
157	No.	.....	"	General work.....	.....	Yes.	20
158	"	.....	"	.....	.....	"	20
160	Yes.	All year.....	"	Hoeing and picking cotton.....	.....	"	12
161	"	In summer.....	"	Planting.....	9	"	16 to 20
162	"	All year.....	"	General work.....	10	"	40
163	No.	.....	"	Plowing, planting, etc.....	11	"	6 to 8
164	"	.....	"	Picking castor beans.....	10	"	16 to 20
165	Yes.	In harvest.....	"	Planting corn.....	10	"	16
166	No.	.....	"	Husking corn.....	8	"	16
167	"	.....	"	Plowing and harrowing.....	8	"	16 to 32
169	Yes.	June and July.....	"	Usually plowing.....	10	"	20
170	No.	.....	"	In harvest.....	.....	"	16
171	"	.....	"	General work.....	10	"	16
172	"	.....	"	.....	10	"	16 to 32
173	"	.....	"	Picking castor beans.....	10	"	28
174	Ger's	In field work.....	"	General work.....	9	"	16 to 24
175	No.	.....	"	Plowing.....	.....	"	28
176	"	.....	No.	.....	.....	"	6
177	"	.....	"	Plowing, harrowing, feeding.....	.....	"	7
178	"	.....	Yes.	General work.....	.....	"	24
181	"	.....	"	Plowing, drive team.....	.....	"	6
182	"	.....	"	Planting corn.....	10	"	12 to 16
183	"	.....	"	.....	11	"	6
185	"	.....	"	Harvesting, planting.....	11	"	24
186	Yes.	In summer.....	"	General work.....	10	"	24
187	"	In harvest.....	No.	.....	.....	"	6

*Women employed.*—It would scarcely be supposed in the absence of facts that so large a proportion, nearly one-fourth, of farmers' wives are employed in field labor. Yet such would appear to be the case, as shown by the returns to the Bureau; of the 187 blanks returned, 44 state in answer to the question: "Are women ever employed in field work?" that they assist in planting corn and hoeing potatoes, picking cotton and castor beans, harvesting, etc. To be sure, this labor, it is

said, is not compulsory, but, with the admission universally made by farmers that machinery enables them to do a much larger amount of work in less time than formally, it does not seem as if machinery had done much in the way of dispensing with female labor in the field.

*Child labor.*—The foregoing remarks, in relation to employment of women on the farm, apply with equal force and propriety to the employment of children in field labor. While some parents require no more of their children, that is, those of 14 years of age and under, than doing chores around, many others, it must be confessed, compel their children to perform the labor of an adult. The number of returns in the above table reporting no children under 14 years of age employed on farm, furnishes the ground for the supposition that the question was not correctly understood, and that it may have been understood in the sense of hired help. The object of the question is to ascertain how far the physical powers of childhood are overtaxed by imposing upon them heavier labor tasks than they are able to bear, and compelling them to labor in factory or field 9 or 11 hours a day. It is just as possible, by over-tasked bodily labor, to stunt the mind as it is to stunt the body.

“ God hath set  
Labor and rest as day and night  
To men successive.”

But man has not only perverted, but inverted the divine order of things.

*Schooling.*—The schooling, if the term may be used, which the farmer's children receive, varies (according to our returns) from twelve to forty weeks, or an average of four to five months in the year. While it is true that the school house is open to the children that length of time, the average attendance, it must be remembered, falls far below that. The small child, for instance, living a mile or more from the school house, may be prevented by the inclemency of the weather from attending. The consequence is, the average attendance really dwindles down to two or three months. In good weather the grown child is kept at home to perform some necessary work in the field; and thus, the farmer's children, instead of receiving the full benefit of even the legal school term, are deprived of the opportunity of acquiring the rudiments of education. We cannot supplement these remarks more pointedly than by the following extracts from the “ twenty-ninth annual report of the Superintendent of the public schools of this State,” which should be printed, framed and suspended in every farmer's and workingman's sitting room throughout the State. He says:

The legal school term (four months in the year) is too short, and much shorter than is at all necessary under the proper utilization and management of the school funds we own. What the children learn in four months cannot be wholly or well retained through the succeeding eight months of vacation. Much is forgotten, and when it re-enters school the same ground which has already been traversed must be gone over again. The same thing is repeated again and again for a period of years. We plant the seed and cultivate the ground for four months and then give twice that length of time for the weeds to flourish and choke the just beginning growth. If intelligence is the strength of the State, and an enlightened citizenship promotes its prosperity and creates wealth, we want no sham education, but something of real and practical value.

#### OPINIONS AND SUGGESTIONS.

*What measures would you suggest that would advance the interests of the farmers of Missouri? (Answer under head of Remarks).—* The foregoing question was asked with all seriousness by the Bureau, and with a view to obtain such suggestions as would assist the legislator to enact such laws as would benefit and promote the prosperity of the farming interests of the State.

In giving, under the head of "Opinions and Suggestions," the views of farmers on questions vital to their interests; it was to be supposed that writing on the same topic, sameness of style and thought would characterize much of the correspondence. From much, therefore, that was irrelevant or repeated, we have selected that to which the most thought and consideration seemed to have been given. The evils are forcibly portrayed and the remedies suggested practical. The questions mostly discussed by them, for convenience, are presented under separate heads. While it must be admitted that some of the evils complained of cannot be effectually removed only by legislation, others, as the want of union or co-operation, depend solely on their own efforts or the degree of interest manifested in their mutual welfare.

#### COMPULSORY EDUCATION.

*No. 45, Appleton.—* What we need is education. Compulsory education would, I think, be of great benefit, as there are too many children that could have the benefit of education if they only would make use of it. There is no more injustice in compelling a child to attend school than in compelling a tax-payer to pay his school tax for the support of public schools. But our schools should be unsectarian. There is nothing that will so advance the agricultural classes as education.

*No. 60, De Bruin.—* I would suggest a more rigid system of education. I have but little hope of bettering the condition of our class while two-thirds of us read none and think about nothing further than six months' provisions and a shelter through the next rainy spell. There are too many farmers who care nothing for the education of their children, and I am in favor of compulsory education, as I believe that is the only remedy that will advance the interest of the farmer in this county.

No. 77, *Charleston*.—I favor compulsory education ; a great many farmers neglect to send their children to school when they have an opportunity ; the consequence is, they grow up in ignorance and cannot successfully fill any sphere in life.

No. 113, *Dixon*.—We have good schools, but many people do not send their children to school ; they should be compelled to do so by law.

No. 135, *California*.—As regards your 18th question, I think it nonsensical for a common farmer to attempt to answer, especially one without an education. I should be glad to give you more extensive information if I was competent to reduce my thoughts to writing ; therefore, I am in favor that our next Legislature pass a law making it compulsory on every parent to send his or her children to school.

#### RAILROAD DISCRIMINATION AND EXTORTION.

No. 20, *Rensselaer*.—I would suggest more legislation in the classification of railroad freight rates, giving them fair remuneration for all distances, making them amenable to the State in heavy damages for all overcharges, and fully protecting the humblest citizen, free of cost, who makes just complaint. As a sample of railway justice, I may state that the Trunk Road, M., K. & T., charges six cents per hundred pounds on corn from "Hazzard to Hannibal," distance, 18 miles, and carries the same from "Monroe to Hannibal," 22 miles, for 5 cts. per cwt., while St. Louis & Keokuk (Long Line) from "Hannibal to St. Louis," 150 miles, charges but 8 cts. per hundred pounds. But while favorites or dead-heads are allowed special advantages in freights and free passes, such wrongs can not be righted.

No. 46, *Loutre Island*.—To advance the interest of agriculture, I would suggest that such laws be enacted as will enable the State to fix freight rates on railroads and all transportation companies within the State, and thus prevent such companies from making and unmaking prices at will by their unjust and discriminating tariffs and freights.

No. 52, *Rockport*.—The requirement by law that the great railroads built mostly by the people's money, should be required to carry the farm product at a reasonable rate, and a uniform price, so we could make some calculation ahead what our labor would bring us ; as it is at present we own the land in fee, but the railroads own us, or rather rent to us our own farms for one-half the products for shipping the other half to market. We pay out of our half the taxes for the privilege of being tenants of these cormorants.

No. 114, *Cassville*.—I can think of no legislation that would benefit the people of this part of the State so much as a law regulating freights on railroads, limiting the railroads to a just and fair rate for transportation. The farmers have to pay an unreasonable freight on shipments of stock and grain, all of which tends to keep the farmer's nose to the grindstone.

No. 15, *Palmyra*.—Give us a law that will equalize transportation ; or, in other words, transportation companies should not be allowed to charge a higher rate for a short distance than a longer one, or a higher rate for one car than for ten or more.

No. 3, *Harlem*.—Give us a law that will stop discrimination and extortion in railroad freights, which is more felt by farmers than any other class of citizens, because a large part of farm products are shipped from way stations where there is no competition, while merchandise and manufactured articles are shipped from principal points where competing lines centre.

No. 147, *Stewartsville*.—Regulate railroad freights so that farmers can ship their produce to localities where wanted, and not be charged double rates ; as it is now pro-

duce is charged the same rates from Osborne, or Stewartsville to Hannibal, as from St. Joseph to Hannibal.

#### SANITARY.

*No. 115, Turney Station.*—I would propose a law that would place in every township an honorable citizen, under penalty, to see that all animals dying from disease are burned or buried; that every farmer through whose land a creek or brook runs keeps it clear of all brush or driftwood, that malarial disease of every kind may be avoided. Let the same precautions be observed by farmers in regard to their cellars and out-houses, in seeing that no decayed or decaying vegetables, or other poisonous substances, are allowed to accumulate.

*No. 148, Hannibal.*—My attention lately has been chiefly directed to the advantages of tile draining the sags and flat parts of all farms. About eight miles of tile are now laid in Ralls county, and a good deal of open ditching is done with good results. When ditching and tiling is resorted to we find health greatly improved, and the unhealthy spots rendered salubrious. My plan is to lay the tile from four to six feet deep, not less than four, and a fall of not less than four inches per hundred feet. We cement the joints all around.

#### PATENT RIGHTS.

*No. 16, Bethany.*—Give us legal protection against perambulatory venders of patent rights and collectors of royalty on simple things that we make for ourselves, in many cases from patterns of our grandsires. Recognize no innocent buyer of notes obtained by fraud. Innocence (or ignorance, as the case may be,) should be protected, rather than pay a premium to transient rascals.

*No. 47, Stockton.*—We need a law to protect the innocent purchaser of patent rights, and that fraudulent venders be held responsible alone for infringements.

#### AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION.

*No. 158, Aullville.*—Farmers, unfortunately, keep no accurate account of production of crops, but recently the order known as P. of H. have awakened some interest in this direction, and have carefully calculated the cost of production of some of their staples with the following result: Wheat, yielding 15 bushels to the acre, cost 75 cts. per bushel; corn and oats, 40 bushels to the acre, 20 cts. These are the staples of our country; of that portion of farm products consumed at home no account is kept, though it is one of vital importance. The leading measures for the advancement of the agriculturists of the State, in my judgment, is the most liberal appropriation for the support of agricultural colleges, and especially their experimental features. The benefits of this feature of the Columbia College are already felt; no investment yields so large returns. Of scarcely less importance is a good system of obtaining correct data. The present system of begging information, meagre and vague at best, is only calculated to lead astray. The department of agriculture should be raised to the same plane as other departments, State and National, with a chief and corps of paid subordinates.

## EXCESSIVE INTEREST.

*No. 162, New Hamburg.*—The general interest charged in this county is from 15 to 24 per cent. on real estate security.

*No. 153, Lamar.*—I am unable to suggest what is best in the way of legislation, but one great evil in our State is the high rate of interest (10 per cent.) we poor people have to pay for money.

*No. 165, Buffalo.*—There are many things that might be done by way of legislation to advance the interests of farmers in this section, but I will mention only one here, that is, a reduction of interest and heavy penalties on usurers.

*No. 149, Nashville.*—I would suggest a reduction in the rate of interest below that of any other State, so that foreign capital (that is, outside the State) could not tempt farmers to mortgage their farms, which, in a few years, fall into the hands of the "money lender."

## INTERNAL IMPROVEMENTS.

*No. 161, Commerce.*—We need the enactment of a good road law, one that would limit the distribution of the work in such a manner as to subserve the best interests of the farmers in their respective localities. This could only be done by placing so much of the work in the hands of overseers residing in the vicinity of the work, and who would know when and where to put up the work to the best advantage. As the law now is, some roads are worked too early in the spring, others too late in the fall. The consequence is bad roads all through the winter.

*No. 19, Commerce.*—I would recommend, for the interests of the farmers of this part of the State, the ditching of the swamps, which would improve the health of all classes by carrying off the surplus water flowing from the hills on to the level or low lands. By means of large ditches and straightening water channels they could reclaim large tracts of rich lands and give employment to thousands and health and comfort to all. Scott county can, and may be made to produce everything needful to the support and luxury of man.

*No. 155, Barton.*—If there was some legislation to assist in draining the low lands of our lower counties, it would be a second Palestine. There are very good facilities for drainage.

## ROAD LAW.

*No. 165, Buffalo.*—We want a change in our present road law so as to collect a direct road poll-tax in cash, and that each road district be let to the lowest responsible bidder. I urge this as one speaking from experience, for I do know that more time is idled away and wasted under the present system than would grade a railroad across the State. Fewer hands would do more work when working for cash, besides giving employment to many idle persons. This plan would allow others to work on their farms when they could see a direct reward for their labor.

## IMMIGRATION.

*No. 29, Woodlandville.*—To advance the interests of farmers in this part of the State, we need the adoption of a judicious system of advertising our resources, so as to

induce the better class of immigrants to settle among us and help to develop our dormant wealth. We need more effort on our part to develop what we have and less talk about finance.

No. 73, *Poplar Bluff*.—Our interests would be materially advanced by inviting from the older States a better class of farmers to come and settle among us.

No. 160, *Covington*.—Immigration would very materially help this part of Missouri. We have thousands of acres of good land that are not cultivated, and hands are very hard to get in the fall and winter. One man can cultivate more cotton than four or five men can gather, and the great trouble with us is getting hands in picking time. We have cotton yet in the field unpicked, while some farmers are planting.

No. 185, *Rocheport*.—We want at least ten thousand more people in Boone county. We want enterprising men to engage in sheep husbandry. We want wood working machinery, and skilled labor to run it, in working up the native wealth of our forests of oak, hickory, walnut, cherry and linn. We need manufacturers of woolen goods, wagons, farm machinery and many other things for common use, that are now made a thousand miles away. We have, besides the timber, mountains of iron and coal, potter's clay, brick making material and building stone, all awaiting but the magic touch of labor, to be converted into a thousand forms for the comfort, pleasure and delight of man.

#### MACHINERY.

No. 29, *Baker's Grove*.—We have too much machinery in this county (Barton); half the farmers are now in debt for it.

No. 117, *Knob Noster*.—To the question, has machinery lessened the demand for farm hands, I answer in the negative. In explanation it is necessary to state that farmers have increased their farming operations in proportion to the work gained by the new improved implements. Of course a great deal more work can be performed by the hands than would be without them. Still, there is as great a demand for hands now as there has been for the last twenty-five years. All find work that will work. There is still room for energetic and able-bodied men to take hold and develop one of the most fertile, and destined to be one of the wealthiest counties in the great State of Missouri.

No. 175, *Fayetteville*.—The introduction of farming machinery has decreased the need of labor, inasmuch as one hand can now perform the work of three under the old system. Wages, however, are not reduced. Would state, however, that some farmers have increased their operations, and in that way employ the same amount of hands as before.

No. 102, *Frazier*.—Improved machinery has not thrown any one out of employment, but rather made it possible for farmers to sow and plant a greater number of acres.

#### LAND POOR.

No. 163, *Morley*.—The trouble is here that a few men own too large tracts of land which they rent out, when, if the same land were owned by a dozen good enterprising farmers, the result would be different.

No. 171, *Apex*.—There is a feeling prevailing here that promises much good in the near future. This feeling is in the direction of dividing the large farms, most of which are old claims and in large tracts, into small farms. The farmers owning these large tracts, it is said, are willing to sell at very reasonable prices.

*No. 108, Mexico.*—Experience and personal observation convinced me that the interests of farmers are advanced by hiring first class help and paying good wages. To one and all I would say, make every acre of your land bring something; if you have more land than you can manage successfully, sell it to some one who will make it pay. Large bodies of land poorly cultivated, is one of the evils of this State. We need more farmers (good ones), consequently more tax-payers. Then we will have better times, better farms and a happier people.

#### GENERAL CONSIDERATION.

*No. 151, Worcester.*—We need a law to protect us against railroad and banking corporations; making all notes, bonds and mortgages not surrendered to the assessor for assessment and listed as other property non-collectable. This would assist in lightening our taxes. The bountiful crops raised in this State the last year, has generally relieved the farmers somewhat in this county; but there is a great lack of good farm hands. The use of farming machinery has not lessened the price or demand of farm laborers.

*No. 7, Moberly.*—Cheap transportation, equal taxation, lower rates of interest and a subdivision of large farms, and an impartial administration of laws, so as to bear alike on the rich and the poor; reduction of official salaries, so as to reduce taxation to the lowest possible figure.

*No. 50, Mexico.*—Cultivate thoroughly all your crops and make every acre self-supporting; superintend your farm in person; hire the best of hands and pay good wages.

*No. 35, Ashland.*—A law is needed reducing interest to six per cent. A compulsory stock law and a law to protect the farmer against railroad and other corporations. We need also a better system of distributing farm seeds.

*No. 40, Harrisonville.*—The introduction of machinery by farmers has reduced the cost of production and increased the yield per acre, with a tendency to create a monopoly of the best land. The interests of the farmers of this part of the State would be materially advanced by the passage of a good sensible road-law and in faithfully executing the same. Protection for sheep, and any easy mode for the farmer to obtain money to purchase feed and stock, and inducements for bringing producers and consumers nearer together. Guarding against monopolies both in farming, purchasing of produce, and transportation. The farmer's home should be beautiful; the home circle cheerful.

*No. 44, New Hope.*—A lower rate of interest; an amended revenue law, with heavy penalties attached for secreting or failing to report property not visible or easily ascertained, such as bonds, notes and other evidences of wealth. A general reduction of salaries to correspond more nearly to the income of farmers and workingmen generally; also a law to equalize freight and to hold transportation companies to a strict account for all property put in their possession.

*No. 87. Mount Vernon.*—Tax unemployed capital more and farm products less; change time of tax paying from January to April; reduce official salaries; devise some plan to prevent tax dodging and do away with tax collector and make taxes payable at county seat to treasurer.

*No. 19. Elm Grove.*—The farmers want a more practical education and a wider knowledge of the wants of the world, more skilled labor, lower interests on money and cheaper transportation. When farmers have to borrow money on their farms the lender of the money should pay the taxes to the extent of the loan.

*No. 172, Brookline.*—The relations of labor and commerce are as mutual as their dependence upon each other. Together, they are essential to the general prosperity and permanent happiness of society. What hinders the one hinders the other. Our country is a whole, and as such, by correct economy has the power, through its labor and commerce, to achieve a more beneficent and glorious advance in the elevation of the great family of man, than has ever brightened the pages of history in any country. But in every way a more perfect union must be established. Labor and commerce must be conducted for the benefit of "the whole people" of our country, not for a part. All specialties that build up by putting down others, are antagonistic to perfect union, justice, and the doctrine of equal rights, and must be entirely abolished. A free people and free institutions can pay tribute to no king under any guise. Free labor and free commerce are amply competent, in a great country like ours, to support and maintain the only government that can permanently secure all the rights and highest happiness that appertain to an intelligent people. Every burden that has been laid directly or indirectly upon labor and commerce is ruinous in its effects, and must be abolished. Direct tax on property which is the product of labor cannot fail to discourage labor. It takes the just and natural rewards of labor which are necessary for the subsistence of the laborer. To take away the means of living is an infringement upon the right to live. Direct tax never has been collected, neither can it be, without infringing upon those natural rights which cannot be innocently alienated. Commerce, in its broadest signification, includes all exchange of labor and its products. This exchange, in a civilized country having a stable government, is effected mainly through money as a medium; therefore interest on money is an indirect tax on labor. Duties and tariffs are also indirect taxes on labor. These taxes are an infringement upon the right of the laboree to a just and equitable compensation. Exorbitant appropriation to those rendering real or pretended public service, is another grievously and unjust and unlimited tax upon labor. These modes of taxing labor discourage legitimate labor and blight general prosperity to increase production and make farmers poor and capitalists millionaires.

*No. 97, Gould Farm.*—Perhaps the greatest drawback to Missouri farming, is the renting out of land, especially the one year system; stop renting, sell or hire hands to work the farms; send intelligent men to make laws, men who will allow a man to put the products of his farm in any shape he pleases to sell; widen out our public roads; build schools and manufactoryes, and keep the farmers' capital at home; manure the farm with brains, and oil with more elbow grease.

*No. 116, Potosi.*—To advance the interests of our farmers, induce them to "grass" more and plow less, to plant fewer acres and cultivate better, thereby raising larger crops with no more cost per acre; work fewer hours and work to advantage while at it; devote more time to reading and thinking; the greatest curse the farmer has is the credit system, and it will be useless to look for much improvement until we buy our supplies for cash, and live within our income; as to legislation, I think that what is known as tax dodging works great hardships to the laboring masses, especially the farmer, as you will see by examining the Auditor's reports; we also need a change in the mode of assessing; we believe it unjust to tax our land and stock, and tools with which we raise our crops and then tax our crops; our State Legislature should be more liberal to our State University, for it is to it we must look for the representative farmer of the future; the farmer needs a more thorough knowledge of his business; he should have an agricultural education, and send his sons there to be educated for their calling, and then keep them on the farm.

*No. 117, Bowling Green.*—I would say that a change in the revenue law is most desirable ; the law is terribly iniquitous. (See Auditor's report). \$400,000,000.00 of wealth untaxed—not assessed ; the railroads of the State earning \$16,000,000.00 annually, and valued at \$23,000,000.00 by the Board of Equalization for assessment ; the gratuities of the State was near \$60,000,000.00; the whole value cannot be less than \$250,000,000.00. In the next place, there should be a reduction of officers and their pay, and an increase of work for those left, especially circuit judges ; they had just as well put in their time as farmers and others ; now they are idle half the year ; the general good should be the aim and not individual ease ; we should hold to the present law, taxing and regulating the railroad system of the State, with such amendments as are necessary to enforce it ; the present law is to a great extent inoperative on this account ; it cannot well be enforced ; consequently, but little attention is paid to it ; now, that the courts have decided the law to be constitutional, we have a right to ask, and expect that it be enforced. The school system is well conducted in this county (Pike), and will secure to every child the education it is entitled to, if in the future it be conducted as now.

*No. 181, Carrollton.*—One of the main grievances of the farmers is the excessive taxes they have to pay ; any plan that will bring out some better method to compel all persons to bear their equal portion of the public burden will be acceptable to the farmers : at least one-fourth of the wealth of this county (Carroll), is in notes, bonds, mortgages, deeds of trust, and nearly all these escape taxation ; my plan would be to furnish the assessor with adjustable seal, and make it his duty to stamp all notes, bonds, etc., that the list calls for, and all unstamped notes, bonds, etc., after the first of January, be declared *null* and *void*.

*No. 164, Harrisonville.*—To advance the interests of farmers, I would suggest representative farmers in Congress and State Legislatures ; freights regulated by law, and the cash system in trade and co-operation in buying and selling.

*No. 118, Breckenridge.*—The result of machinery here is the need for fewer hands and better ones ; I do not know of any better way to advance the interests of farmers than to take all possible pains to grow up our sons with more industry and intelligence ; it is a lack of industry and general intelligence, as well as a lack of love for the business that makes farming drag so in Missouri ; so many farm, as they now do, because they know of no other way to live ; in this part of the State more beef, mutton, and wool should be grown, and less pork, and no grain to export ; hundreds of thousands of bushels of corn are shipped out of North Missouri each year at from 20 to 25 cents a bushel, while in this fine grass land, this corn fed judiciously to sheep and cattle, is worth nearly double that money. I came here 13 years ago with a flock of 600 Spanish sheep, and by tending to business am worth three times the money now that I had when I came here ; I have lost \$1,000 each year for lack of knowledge in the business ; ignorance, indolence and vice are at the bottom of every failure in Missouri, for 80 years past ; I have at this time over 6,000 sheep to shear, and expect to raise 250 lambs ; if there were five times the wool and mutton grown, and double the amount of cattle, and of a better grade, the income of this part of the State would be much greater : 50 years ago, in Ohio, we had no machinery, men worked for 87½ cents a day, and took it in trade ; the result was, the children went barefoot until 14 years of age, and half clad through life ; the same would be the case in Missouri to-day if it were not for machinery ; there were no communes then ; there was nothing to divide ; I have always had the same confidence in myself; hence my success.

*No. 140, Sturgeon.*—This question (18) embraces the whole scope of legislation, and with the study I have given the subject to the present, I hardly believe I am com-

petent to give intelligibly an answer ; I have never belonged to that class of farmers known as "grangers," never having believed that the tillers of the soil could successfully combat the *intelligence* of the world, for, as you must know, their laborers are the most unskilled and ignorant of the whole community.\* As a means to advance our laboring community, we must enlarge and develop our system of education so that it will be within the reach of all ; I do not believe that farm laborers, as a rule, get adequate compensation for their labor, but the "grangers" have failed to show the way, and the question is still unsolved ; the answer I would give at present, would be in the language of the old States: " We must educate, we must educate."

\*Our correspondent overlooks the successful efforts of the English agricultural laborers under the leadership of Joseph Arch.

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